



The
BEATITUDES

Peace from the Inside Out

⁸ Blessed are the **pure in heart**,
For they shall **see God**.

⁹ Blessed are the **peacemakers**,
For they shall be called **sons of God**.

Matthew 5:8-9

Christ followers need to remember that God is more concerned with our **inward character (attitude) than our **outward behavior (actions)**.**

..For the Lord **does not see as man sees; for man looks at the outward appearance, but the **Lord looks at the heart.**”**

1 Samuel 16:7b

The condition of your heart (your inner person), the real you, is of utmost importance to Jesus.

³ Who may ascend into the hill of the Lord?

Or who may stand in His holy place?

**⁴ He who has clean hands and a pure heart,
Who has not lifted up his soul to an idol,
Nor sworn deceitfully.**

**⁵ He shall receive blessing from the Lord,
And righteousness from the God of his
salvation.**

Psalm 24:3-5

“To be pure in heart is to have a dirty heart made clean, an impure heart purified, a filthy heart cleansed.”

Dr. Danny Akin

²³ **Search me, O God, and know my heart;**
Try me, and know my anxieties;
²⁴ **And see if there is any wicked way in me,**
And lead me in the way everlasting.

Psalm 139:23-24

1. Examine Your Motives – “Why am I doing this?”

Scripture: “All a person’s ways seem **pure to them**,
but **motives are weighed** by the Lord.”

Proverbs 16:2

Ask yourself: Am I doing this to honor God or to **gain approval, control, or comfort?**

Purity of heart begins with honestly checking your motives. Even good actions can be driven by **selfish desires.**

What does this look like?

**Before major decisions or conversations,
pause and pray, “**Lord, purify my motives.**”**

2. Examine Your Reactions – “How do I respond when things don’t go my way?”

Scripture: “Out of the abundance of the heart **the mouth speaks.**”

Luke 6:45

Ask yourself: Do I respond with grace, or do **bitterness, jealousy, or pride** rise up?

Our reactions (especially in frustration, disappointment, or conflict) **reveal what truly rules our hearts.**

What does this look like?

When you **feel triggered, pause to ask, “Why am I **feeling this way** and what does it show about my **heart/intentions** right now?”**

3. Examine Your Relationships - “Is there peace or hidden resentment?”

Scripture: “If you hold anything against anyone,
forgive them...”

Mark 11:25

Ask: Is there anyone I need to **forgive or be reconciled with?**

Purity of heart can't coexist with harboring grudges, gossip, or secret judgment.

What does this look like?

Regularly bring your relationships before God in prayer and ask Him to reveal where your heart is not aligned with His peace.

**Blessed are the peacemakers,
For they shall be called sons of God.**

Matthew 5:9

Peacekeepers

Avoid Conflict

Settle for Superficial Harmony

Fear Rejection or Disapproval

Prefer Comfort over Momentary Tention

**Peacekeeping can serve a purpose, but it
cannot bring the wholeness Jesus calls
“peace.”**

How to be a Peacemaker

1) Meet Conflict with Courage and Grace

**Peacemakers don't run from conflict. They
move through it with wisdom and love.**

Brethren, if a man is **overtaken in any trespass**, you who are spiritual **restore** such a one in a **spirit of gentleness, considering yourself** lest you also be tempted.

Galatians 6:1

How to be a Peacemaker

- 1) Meet Conflict with Courage and Grace
- 2) Pursue Reconciliation, Not Just Resolution

Peacemakers care about **people's hearts** being healed, not just **issues being settled**.
Peace is not **the absence of conflict** but the presence of **restored unity**.

¹⁸ Now all things are of God, who has **reconciled us to Himself** through Jesus Christ, and has given us the **ministry of reconciliation**,¹⁹ that is, that God was **in Christ** reconciling the world to Himself, not imputing their trespasses to them, and has committed to us **the word of reconciliation.**

2 Corinthians 5:18-19

How to be a peacemaker

- 1) Meet Conflict with Courage and Grace**
- 2) Pursue Reconciliation, Not Just Resolution**
- 3) Bring Healing Where There Is Hurt**

Peacemakers step into broken spaces
(homes, friendships, communities, work) to
fix what's broken.

“Often these other individuals and groups are believers in Jesus who, for whatever reason, run a bit against the grain of mainstream thought and action. Instead of ostracizing them, Barnabas not only deliberately encounters them, but also listens to them and welcomes them warmly.”

- Robin Gallaher Branch

How to be a peacemaker

- 1) Meet Conflict with Courage and Grace**
- 2) Pursue Reconciliation, Not Just Resolution**
- 3) Bring Healing Where There Is Hurt**
- 4) Reflect the Heart of Jesus**

Jesus is the **ultimate peacemaker**. He didn't
keep peace with sin; **He made peace** through
His sacrifice on the cross.

¹³ But now in Christ Jesus **you who once were far off have been brought near** by the blood of Christ. ¹⁴ For He Himself is our **peace**, who has made both one, and has **broken down the middle wall** of separation,

¹⁵ having abolished in His flesh the enmity,
that is, the law of commandments contained
in ordinances, so as **to create in Himself one
new man from the two, thus making peace,**¹⁶
and that He might **reconcile them both to
God in one body through the cross,** thereby
putting to death the enmity.

Ephesians 2:13-16

**True peacemakers imitate His courage,
compassion, and commitment to truth.**

So what?

If you don't know Jesus as your Lord and Savior, before you can be a “Minister of Reconciliation**” you have to first be reconciled.**

If you are a Christ follower, **search your heart and look for an area** in your life where you are being called to be a **“peacemaker”**.