

WAGING PEACE

So Far As It Depends On You

Romans 12:14-21

Sunday, August 26, 2018

We wrap up our Waging Peace summer series with a straightforward look at the messiness of conflict and the challenge of Romans 12:14-21 . . .

Waging Peace is messy because . . .

- Sometimes people don't, won't or can't REPENT.
- Sometimes people have different PERSPECTIVES and REALITIES.
- Sometimes reconciliation / restoration DOESN'T HAPPEN.
- Peace seems or really is NOT POSSIBLE.

What do we do in these cases/circumstances?

4 truths from Romans 12:18 . . .

1. Peace waging is ACTIVE, not PASSIVE.
2. Peace depends on BOTH PARTIES.
3. Peace is not always POSSIBLE.
4. Our responsibility is to do all WE CAN and TRUST GOD.

So what do we do after we've done our part?

7 challenges from Romans 12:14-21: With God's help and by the grace of the Gospel . . .

1. BLESS, don't CURSE. (12:14)

2. IDENTIFY and EMPATHIZE with the other person's circumstances. (12:15)
3. Guard your heart against PRIDE. (12:16)
4. Do the RIGHT thing, remembering your actions are a WITNESS to others. (12:17)
5. Don't look for PAYBACK, but TRUST God and WAIT for His JUSTICE. (12:19)
6. Keep RADICALLY LOVING. (12:20)
7. Overcome EVIL with GOOD. (12:21)