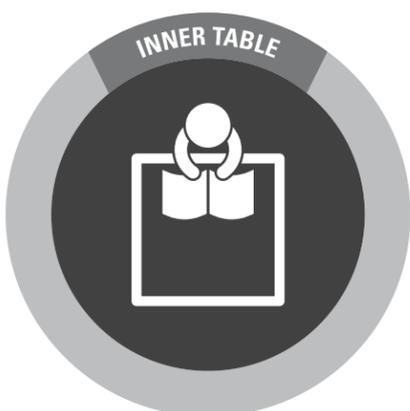


Sermon Notes

“People and Peace”
March 10th, 2019



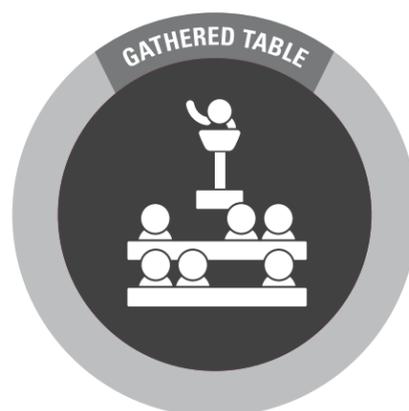
**First
Friends**
Church



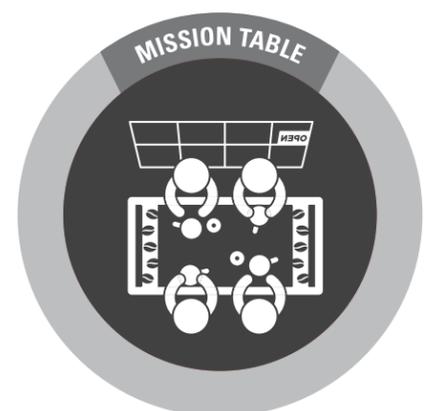
Seeking God
in Solitude



Finding God
in Friendship



Celebrating God
in Community



Reflecting God
in Relationships

Reflection Questions *(please use these individually or in groups)*

Sermon Questions:

1. Consider the people who have been the most significant Christian mentors in your life. Thank God for them, and make plans to contact them this week to thank them for their guidance and inspiration.
2. How comfortable are you saying, "Follow me as I model following Jesus." What gives you hesitation with that statement?
3. Which way of thinking from this series is one that you need to utilize more in building your house upon the rock?
4. In what areas of your life do you need to be filled with the peace from God that surpasses understanding?

Additional Questions:

5. As MLK said, "Peace is not simply the absence of violence or conflict, but the presence of justice." Where do you see injustices in your world where you have the resources to stand in the gap?
6. Do you see a difference in the phrasing, "May the peace of God be with you," and "May the God who is peace be with you?" If so, what is the difference?

Devotional Reading & Inward Reflection

- **1 Corinthians 10:31-11:1** | Do you have someone (friend or family member) who you are mentoring? Do you have a mentor? Why are these relationships so important for growth?
- **Philippians 4:4-9** | Where do you need the God who is peace to transcend all understanding in your life? Who do you need to talk to about this?
- **Matthew 7:24-27** | The survival of our houses isn't dependent upon what we do during the storm, but before it. What are some things you need to do before a storm comes into your life?
- **Matthew 5:9** | Ask the God who is peace to transform you into a peacemaker this week. What are some practical steps towards becoming a peacemaker?

Self-Care Disciplines *(Excerpts from Celebration of Discipline by Richard Foster)*

March Discipline: Submission | Scripture & Family (p.122)

Submission and service function concurrently. Hence, much of the practical outflow of submission will come in the next month (service). There are, however, seven acts of submission that we should draw attention to. There will be one or two mentioned each week in the month of March

The second act of submission is to the Scripture. As we submit ourselves to the Word of God (Jesus), so we submit ourselves to the word of God (Scripture). We yield ourselves first to hear the word, second to receive the word, and third to obey the word. We look to the Spirit who inspired the Scriptures to interpret and apply them to our condition. The word of Scripture, animated by the Holy Spirit, lives with us throughout the day.

The third act of submission is to our family. The dictum for the household should be "Let each of you look not only to his or her own interests, but also the interests of others" (Phil 2:4). Freely and graciously the members of the family make allowance for each other. The primary deed of submission is a commitment to listen to the other family members. Its corollary is a willingness to share, which is itself a work of submission.

Note: Don't let these burden you each week. Please engage only if you feel it would be beneficial in caring for yourself. Sometimes self-care involves giving yourself a break, even from self care disciplines.