

From the Pastor

The seventh Beatitude reads, “Blessed are the peacemakers for they shall be called sons of God.” (Matthew 5:9).

Becoming the very sons (and daughters) of God is the hope of our calling! This is the purpose for which we were created.

It is obvious then that learning to become peacemakers is a vital step in achieving the purpose of our creation.

“Peacemaker” comes from a compound Greek word—“eirenopoios.” The two words are “eirene” and “poieo.” Danker’s Lexicon defines “eirene” as “a state of concord, peace, harmony.” “Poieo” is the verb to make. So “peacemaker” is simply one who makes peace—seeks to produce concord or harmony. The word “eirenopoios” is only used once in the New Testament—here in Matthew 5:9.

However, the two words are used together in James 3:18 which reads, “Now the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make [Greek—poieo] peace [Greek—eirene].”

From James 3:18 we learn that the outcome of the work of peacemakers (if their work is truly sowing peace) should be the fruit of righteousness. Righteousness is the outcome God wants to see (and we all want to see). However, we understand that righteousness in an individual is produced only by that individual’s free choice. Since no one can make someone else choose the path of righteousness, no one can make someone else be at peace. Cessation of hostilities can be enforced from the outside; but, internal peace must come from an individual’s free choice. Each individual must freely choose the path of righteousness.

All a peacemaker can do is instruct a person in how to find the path of peace. Each individual must then freely choose to follow that path or not. A peacemaker humbly instructs (does not badger or nag). Nor is a peacemaker motivated by some self-centered motive of his own. The purpose is to instruct in the way of peace. The way of peace is the way of real outgoing concern for the wellbeing of the other person.

The way of peace is the way of real godly love. This is why peacemakers will be called “sons of God.”

	Victoria	Corpus Christi	Harlingen
Sunset Today in:	7:16pm	7:17pm	7:19pm
Sunset Friday 10-13	7:01pm	7:03pm	7:05pm

Church of God South Texas

Victoria - Corpus Christi - Harlingen



Atonement-September 30, 2017

Victoria

Sermon: Steve Moody DVD

Corpus Christi

Offertory: Arnold Mendez

Sermon: Arnold Mendez

Harlingen

Split Sermon: Michael Watts

Split Sermon: Arnold Mendez

“Blessed is the Lord God of Israel, for He has visited and redeemed His people, and has raised up a horn of salvation for us in the house of His servant David...to give light to those who sit in darkness and the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace.”

Luke 1:67-68, 79

Birth Announcement: Virginia and Gabe Dempsey are please to announce the birth of their second son, Lincoln Gabe Dempsey. He was born September 29th at 12:30 AM. He weighed 8 pounds and was 20 inches long. Both mother and child as well as older brother Liam are doing well.

