

OUTLINE • 9

- I. The Greek word for “*rule*” in Colossians 3:15 comes from our English word “umpire,” which means “to govern or arbitrate.”
 - A. We can understand this in the same way we understand the function of an umpire in baseball: Once the umpire makes the call, his decision is final; there’s no debate.
 - B. The peace of God should act just like an umpire in our hearts.
 - C. Peace is a fruit of the Holy Spirit, so we always have peace in our born-again spirits.
 - D. The Holy Spirit is constantly bearing witness in our hearts, but not always with words.
 - E. Sometimes we just feel peace, or a lack of it, about doing something.
- II. God will put a desire in our hearts, then it’s up to us to evaluate whether or not we feel peace about doing it—to confirm what is from God.

Be still, and know that I am God: I will be exalted among the heathen, I will be exalted in the earth.

PSALM 46:10

- A. When we come to a fork in the road, we need to go in the direction we have the most peace.
- B. Instead of always talking when we pray, sometimes we need to be still and listen.
- C. People who aren’t seeking the Lord hate to be still.
- D. When we are still, a little homing device God has planted in all of us starts going off, making us think about our lives and question whether or not we are experiencing all there is.
- E. If we don’t have peace about where we are right now or where we are going, we need to start making some changes—we need to start taking small steps in the direction we have peace about.
- F. Sometimes the way we discern God’s will is by finding out what He *doesn’t* want us to do—like when He gives us a *holy dissatisfaction*.
- G. This is practical and can change our lives.
- H. I believe that most people who seek God’s will for their lives would discover significant direction simply by being still and allowing God’s peace to rule in their hearts.

DISCIPLESHIP QUESTIONS • 9

1. The peace of God should rule like an _____ in your heart.
2. True or false: Regarding peace, God won't always use words to bear witness in your heart.
3. Discussion question: Have you ever experienced peace, or a lack of it, about doing something? Explain.

4. When God puts a desire in your heart, what do you have to do?
 - A. Evaluate whether or not you feel peace about doing it—to confirm what is from God
 - B. First make sure everyone who is important to you in your life agrees with it
 - C. Check it against your to-do list, and trash it if it's not on there
 - D. Sleep on it
 - E. Ask God to give you a sign

5. Instead of always talking when you pray, you need to be _____ and listen.

6. Sometimes the way you discern God's will is by finding out what He _____ want you to do.

7. What is that like?

8. Discussion question: What does it take for you to be still and let God's peace rule in your heart?

SCRIPTURES • 9

COLOSSIANS 3:15

And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful.

GALATIANS 3:22-23

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, [23] Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.

PSALM 37:4

Delight thyself also in the Lord; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart.

PSALM 15:4

In whose eyes a vile person is contemned; but he honoureth them that fear the Lord. He that sweareth to his own hurt, and changeth not.

PSALM 46:10

Be still, and know that I am God: I will be exalted among the heathen, I will be exalted in the earth.