



Westminster Presbyterian Church
Sermon Based Small Group Plan
December 10, 2017
Peace in Anxious Times
Leading: Pastor Dave Rohde
Scripture: Jeremiah 33:14-16; Malachi 3:1-3;
Matthew 24:26-51

Open in Prayer

Study Questions for the Sermon and Text:

1. Last week we talked about Hope. This week we are exploring Peace. How do hope and peace go hand in hand with one another?
2. On Sunday, Pastor Dave shared a quote from Karl Barth, “take your Bible and take your newspaper, and read both, *But* interpret the newspapers from the Bible.” Why is it important for Christians to have a pulse on current events? What can we do to grow in our understanding of Scripture? What can we do to bring peace to tense situations?
3. The Hebrew word for peace is “shalom.” A more direct translation of the word is “complete wholeness” or “total wellbeing.” When Jeremiah prophesies to exiled people in Babylon, he calls for the people to “seek the *shalom* of their new neighborhoods” (Jeremiah 29:7-10). How do we seek shalom for our communities today?
4. Re-Read Malachi 3:1-3 and focus on the imagery of refining and purifying. Why is this concept important for God’s people? What sort of tools exist today to assure that we are consistently putting ourselves through a process of refining and purification?
5. Matthew 24:36-44 paints a graphic picture. Why do you think Jesus used the language that He did? Jesus says, “be ready for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.” What should be our takeaway from his warning?

Prayer:

Spend some time together praying for peace — in our church, our local communities, and around the world.

Leader notes:

Don't just count your blessings, share them