

# SMALL GROUP STUDY GUIDE



**PRINCE  
OF PEACE**  
Called to Connect



## Living with Peace

*December 7 & 8, 2019*

Peace is a gift God gives to those who trust Him. When peace seems elusive and fleeting – during those times when we find ourselves in the midst of chaos and tossed about by the storms of life – we trust in the Lord, for He alone has the power to grant the peace of God which surpasses all understanding and will guard our hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

### SCRIPTURE TEXT: ISAIAH 9:2,6-7

Read the scripture text together as a group.

#### BACKGROUND INFO

In a world filled with war and violence, it's difficult to see how Jesus could be the all-powerful God who acts in human history and be the embodiment of peace. But physical safety and political harmony don't necessarily reflect the kind of peace He's talking about.

The Hebrew word for "peace," shalom, is often used in reference to an appearance of calm and tranquility of individuals, groups, and nations. The deeper, more foundational meaning of peace is "the spiritual harmony brought about by an individual's restoration with God."

Ironically, the lightest definition of peace, that of the appearance of tranquility in a person, can be the most difficult to grasp and maintain. We do nothing to acquire or maintain our spiritual peace with God. It can be extremely difficult, living in peace in our own lives can often feel impossible.

No matter what hardships we are faced with, we can ask for a peace that comes from the powerful love of God that is not dependent on our own strength or the situation around us.

#### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- Which part of this scripture passage stands out to you the most? Why?
- Describe a setting that is peaceful for you; where are you? What are you doing? Who else is there?
- Why about that setting brings you peace?
- What comes to mind when you think of peace, in general?
- How has Jesus, the Prince of Peace, been involved in bringing you peace?

**APPLICATION:** This week, let's live with peace. Take some time each day to quiet yourself and rest in God's peace for you. Take some quiet time, a few deep breaths, and meditate on these scripture verses.