

To Live is Christ

21 For to me, to live is Christ.

Philippians 1:21 NKJV

FCI Faith Group Program

June 11, 2023

3 JOHN SERIES – (CONCLUSION) PEACE TO YOU

- **3 John 1:13-14** – “I had many things to write”: John’s preference is for personal, face to face communication rather than the writing of letters. *Iba pa rin ang face to face. Mas malinaw, less ang misinterpretations or communication problems. At mas personal.*
- It is a short letter but we have learned many things: 1) How to activate prosperity in us by sowing and reaping; 2) We become partners and fellow workers for the truth when we sow for the work of the gospel of Christ; 3) Leadership at home/work/business and we are to speak the truth. Recognize also the authority placed upon you. We stand for and stand in truth. Standing in the truth is our good testimony. 4) God, the Truth has a good opinion of you, and it will never change. (Read **Ephesians 1**)
- And now, John gives the final blessings: “Peace to you. Our friends greet you. Greet the friends by name.”
- **Peace to you** – Peace in Hebrew: *Eirene* – peace between individuals; harmony, security, prosperity. Very similar to the word *Shalom* – peace, wholeness.
- Though John had peace with Gaius, this is a letter also about contention and conflict with Diotrephes, yet John appropriately ends the letter with a desire and expectation for peace. He wants peace to all.
- Peace being declared is not just good but it is also powerful.
- Jesus, after His resurrection, said “peace” as His first word to His disciples.
- Peace in every relationship is very important. Jesus frequently spoke about peace.
- Whatever storm you have in your life, you can speak the Word, “Peace, be still!” And it will settle down.
- As Christians, leaders of our home, workplace, or business, when we speak the truth, it is because of love and we want peace. That is why our declaration also is Peace/Shalom. *Kaayusan sa lahat ng aspeto ng pamilya, trabaho, business, relationships kahit may correction or confrontation man na nangyayari.* And confrontations are good if you do it in grace. Settle it face to face, a peaceful confrontation when you allow the grace of God to be seen in you. Always communicate with grace.
- Do not be afraid of confrontation as long as *nakatayo ka sa katotohanan at ang motive mo ay magkaron ng kaayusan at kapayaan, tumayo ka at sabihin mo ng maayos.*
- We can and should have a sense of peace even in the midst of difficult times. We, Christians, have peace in Jesus Christ. So it is our desire to have peace even in times of difficulty: Trials, testing, even in discipline.
- No matter what our weaknesses or struggles are, peace is what we have because of our Lord Jesus Christ who paid for all our sins.
- Declare to our brothers and sisters: “*Pumayapa ka.* Be at peace. Be in peace. Trust Him regardless of your struggles.”
- All believers are saved not by what they do or not do but only through the finished work of our Lord Jesus Christ. We believe therefore, we receive.
- **Isaiah 32:17** – The work of righteousness will be peace. And the effect of righteousness, quietness and assurance forever.
- Jesus took all the penalty for us to have peace. It’s already available to us and it’s already in us.
- Declare: “Peace to you. Peace in you.”
- Be aware of peace in you. Recognize it so that even in the most difficult times, you can have peace.
- Whatever you are going through, you have peace in you that surpasses all understanding.

- *Maging sino ka man, ano ka man, ano man ang sitwasyon o pinagdadaanan mo, we speak and declare peace pa rin ang para sa atin.* Peace is what God wants us to enjoy.
- **1. Peace in doing good** – Know that our labor in Christ is not in vain. **(1 Corinthians 15:58)**
Gaya ni Gaudis, magpatuloy lang tayo. Let us continue to maintain good works. **(Titus 3:8)**
- *Walang* retirement, resignation, or quitting *sa* ministry *o* *pagiging* Kristiyano. We keep on doing good.
- Good works are according to Jesus and His finished work.
- **2. Peace even when we are disciplined**
– *Wag* ma-ooffend sa correction *o* *disiplina*, instead *tayo ay matuto.* *Wag magalit kundi isaisip na ang Diyos ay itinatama lang tayo dahil sa Kanyang pagmamahal.*
- Discipline is good for us.
- Remember, God does not discipline with *pamalo o kidlat o sakit o sakuna o problema.* Instead, the Word of God is what He uses. **(2 Timothy 3:16)** The Word of God is enough to discipline us.
- We become wiser after discipline, there is peaceable fruit of righteousness. **(Hebrews 12:11)**
- The Lord customizes the Word for the needs of the members.
- **3. Peace even when we have trials and tribulations (na hindi galing kay Lord)**
- Stand in truth and stay in peace.
- **Philippians 4:6-7** – *Wag magworry, do not be troubled, ipag-pray mo lang* and cast all your cares unto the Lord because He cares for you. *Pag naicast mo na kay Lord, yan ang dahilan kung bakit ka makakatulog kasi ito ang kasunod* – and the peace which surpasses all understanding will guard your hearts and minds.
- *Ibang klaseng* peace ito – it’s not the peace of the world but the peace of the Lord.
- So let us go in peace. (Ex. Jesus said to the woman who was healed of bleeding for 12 years: “Go into peace.”)
- Peace is in us already. One of the fruit of the Holy Spirit. We just need to recognize it. Acknowledge it. Speak it out, speak peace to your family, workplace, business, situation, as Jesus spoke peace.
- And though we have peace already, peace can still multiply.
- This peace multiplies when we know more and more of God and His Son Jesus Christ. Not only peace but grace *pa* more. **(2 Peter 1:2)**
- Grace and peace multiply as you know that God loves you and that He has a good opinion of you. The truth who is Jesus has a good testimony about you. *Maganda ang patotoo tungkol sa yo at hindi na ito magbabago!* This truth is unchanging. This is now our standing and position before God, and it is forever.
- Peace to us all!
- Peace to your family. Peace among brethren. Let us learn to stay in peace with the brethren. *Kasi tayo-tayo rin ang magkakasama* in eternity forever.
- This is the peace that Jesus paid for. In Isaiah it says, “But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; The chastisement for our peace was upon Him, And by His stripes we are healed.” **(Isaiah 53:5)**
- Let us learn to walk in peace. There will be difference or offenses, but we can always walk in peace because the peace of God is in our hearts. This is the priority of peace. Jesus won it all for us.
- We have His peace and we can give His peace to others as well.

Brothers and sisters, peace to you.
Peace is what we have because of our Lord Jesus Christ who paid for all our sins.
It's already available to us and it's already in us.
Declare: "Peace to you. Peace in you."
Peace is what God wants us to enjoy.
Therefore, we have peace in doing good.
We have peace even when we are disciplined.
We have peace even in trials or tribulations.
Stand in truth and stay in peace.
This is not the peace of the world but the peace of the Lord.
His peace that surpasses all understanding.
Peace to us all!