

# MAKING HOPE YOUR HOPE

February 26, 2023 • Hosea 11:1-7 & John 14:23-37  
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## INTRODUCTION:

- A. I want peace of mind...don't you?
- B. We want it but very rarely are experiencing it.
- C. Jesus wants us to have peace.

***"All who love me will do what I say. My Father will love them, and we will come and make our home with each of them...But when the Father sends the Advocate as my representative – that is, the Holy Spirit — he will teach you everything and will remind you of everything I have told you. I am leaving you a gift — peace of mind and heart. And the peace I give is a gift the world cannot give. So don't be troubled or afraid."***

John 14:23, 26-27

## I. WE HAVE TO MAKE PEACE WITH WHAT WE CANNOT CHANGE

- A. We worry, feel guilty and get mad about what we cannot change...about it, them and us. Such feeling don't change anything and surely do not give us peace.

- The key, with God's help, is to change all we can change and accept we can't.

- B. Being at peace is something "***the Holy Spirit will teach you (me).***" John 14:26

***I have learned to be satisfied with the things I have and with everything that happens. I know how to live when I am poor, and I know how to live when I have plenty. I have learned the secret of being happy at any time in everything that happens...I can do all things through Christ, because He gives me strength.***

Philippians 4:11-13

- What gives us peace most is God's presence...more than His answer.

- C. The Serenity Prayer: "God grant me the serenity (peace) to accept the things I cannot change, the courage to change the things I can, and the wisdom to know the difference."

## II. PEACE IS EXPERIENCED WHEN WE TRUST GOD'S PEACE

***You will keep in perfect peace all who trust in you, all whose thoughts are fixed on you. Trust in the Lord always, for the Lord God is the eternal rock.***

Isaiah 26:3-4

- B. Peace is elusive because life is never problem-free. Problems get our thoughts moving in the wrong direction:

***Don't worry...pray...tell God what you need...Then you will experience God's peace... His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus.***

Philippians 4:6-7

## III. PEACE IS DISCOVERED THROUGH GOD'S LOVING DIRECTION

- A. Have you noticed, at times, how you're at war with God? Who is going to be in control?

***"...the more I called to him the farther he moved from me...I taught Israel how to walk, leading him along by the hand...I led...with ropes of kindness and love... I myself...feed him...They call me the Most High, but they don't truly honor me."***

Hosea 11:2-4,7

- B. God desires our obedience but will not demand it.

- Where in your life are you having trouble embracing God's direction?

***Those who love your instructions (commandments, suggestions) have great peace  
and do not stumble.*** **Psalm 119:165**

**CONCLUSION:**