

What Does the Bible Say About... PEACE & WAR

WEEK 5

Starter Question

What have been some of the thoughts and feelings you have had in regards to the current invasion of Ukraine by Russia?

READ ROMANS 12:14-21

1. THE PRIORITY OF PEACE

- Matthew 5:9, Matthew 5:38-39, Romans 12:18, Galatians 5:22-23

2. THE PRINCIPLES OF JUST WAR

- Romans 12:18, Ecclesiastes 3:1,8, Romans 13:1-4, Luke 22:36
 1. The cause of initiating war must be just.
 2. War cannot be initiated justly except by those who hold the proper authority and responsibility.
 3. The moral merit on our side must clearly outweigh the moral merit on the other side.
 4. War can only be declared with the right intention, which is to obtain or restore a just peace.
 5. War must be the last resort.
 6. War cannot be justified if the prospect of success is hopeless, regardless of how just the cause may be.
 7. War should be seen as a tragic necessity, not an aggressive opportunity.

3. THE PATHWAY TO PEACE

- Isaiah 2:4, Philippians 4:6

Further Discussion

1. Thinking about the message this past Sunday, what was the most exciting thing you learned? What do you have more questions about?
2. Why do you think we sometimes find it so difficult to strive for peace with all people?
3. When thinking about Romans 12:18-21, why do you think most people feel as though it is their place to get revenge?
4. What are some practical ways that we can truly be peacemakers in our lives and in the lives of others?
5. In thinking about war, what are some ways as Christians that we can truly glorify God both personally and as a church?

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