

Are You Using The Keys To Family Peace?

The family of man worldwide is certainly not at peace and our leaders continue to fail miserably at finding it.

World leaders give speeches about peace, even quoting from the prophet Isaiah in the Christian Bible, concerning the need to *“beat their swords into plowshares,”* [Isaiah 2:4].

But leaders avoid mentioning, however, Isaiah’s vital conclusion, *“the way of peace they have not known.”* [Isaiah 59:8]

Over 6,000 years of human history have proven Isaiah’s observation to be absolutely true.

People want peace and need peace.

We talk about peace, sing about it, hold summit conferences and proclaim it, yet we never seem to permanently find peace.

Why?

Not only is peace hard to find, it is impossible for humanity to find peace because this world has cut itself off from the only source of true and lasting peace.

John 14:27 [New King James] *“Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.”*

How much peace does the world give, whether in government, religion, families or even in people’s minds?

Very little!

What peace there is at any time in some part of society does not last long.

The family is a microcosm of the world and any guidelines for peace in the family can be applied worldwide.

Galatians 5:22-23 [New King James] *“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, **peace**, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law.”*

Peace is one of the “fruits” of an active Holy Spirit in our lives, are we expressing this fruit in our personal life?

Is your little family kingdom a light to show the world how all could live in harmony?

As Christians it should be, or at least you should be, in the process of making it become such a light.

We may not be able to change much of the world now, but we can change our own lives.

This area of peace and harmony is something we can develop in our individual lives and our children need to be helped to also show more of this peace in their lives.

True peace comes from the Creator God and from no other source.

1 Corinthians 14:33 [New King James] *“For God is not the author of confusion but of peace, as in all the churches of the saints.”*

God does not cause confusion, tumult and instability.

2 Corinthians 4:3-4 [New King James] *“But even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing, whose minds the god of this age has blinded, who do not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them”*

The god of this world, that lacks peace and harmony, is Satan. Jesus Christ did **not** tell Satan that this world was **not** his to offer, [**Matthew 4:8-9**].

Satan is behind all fighting, bickering and disagreement in the family home.

Satan is a liar and murderer, [**John 8:44**] and controls all that happens in this world that may lead to peace, [**1 John 5:19**].

Isaiah 32:17-18 [New King James] *“The work of righteousness will be peace, and the effect of righteousness, quietness and assurance forever. My people will dwell in a peaceful habitation, in secure dwellings, and in quiet resting places,”*

This prophecy of a future world, after the Second Coming of Jesus Christ, this time as world ruler, can be worked out in our family right now.

The “*work of righteousness*” is following the rules as laid down in God’s Word, the Christian Bible.

Does this describe your home?

Is it a “*peaceful habitation*”?

Or do you find yourself having to regularly settle arguments among your children?

Do you as parents argue with your children?

Do you as husbands and wives argue and yell at each other, or go to the other extreme and give each other the silent treatment for long stretches of time?

1 Peter 3:8-10 [New King James] *“Finally, all of you be of one mind, having compassion for one another; love as brothers, be tenderhearted, be courteous; not returning evil for evil or reviling for reviling, but on the contrary blessing, knowing that you were called to this, that you may inherit a blessing. For ‘He who would love life and see good days, let him refrain his tongue from evil, and his lips from speaking deceit.’”*

It takes two to carry on an argument or fight.

Teach children the source of fighting and argument by lifting human controversies to the spiritual level.

Teach your children how Satan can influence their attitudes towards fighting, at the same time reminding yourselves.

What do you do when these problem of fighting and argument do occur?

First – teach and learn the practice of giving not getting –

The way of **giving promotes peace**, the way of **getting destroys peace**.

Children naturally tune in at a very young age to an attitude of getting things for themselves.

The get attitude destroys peace on any level of human conduct, whether among children or nations.

It is important to instil God's Commandments, in simple ways, into your children's minds early in their lives.

Teaching a toddler **not** to grab toys from another is helping them to **not** covet or steal, [Exodus 20:15, 17].

If you allow your child to take things from others, it will **not** be long till peace is disrupted.

Opportunities abound to ingrain this principle of peace into your children, make maximum use of those occasions to actively teach them.

For instance, if you as a family see on television some starving children, take time to teach your own children the related lessons that apply to our lives.

Tell them something like this, *“Those children are starving because the grown-ups are fighting wars. Wars are when a lot of people are trying to take something away from other people. God hates such fighting. That is why when you fight with your brother or sister to take something from them we have to correct you. Fighting only hurts people like those little starving children.”*

Such teaching can be very effective on young, impressionable minds.

James 4:1-3 [New King James] *“Where do wars and fights come from among you? Do they not come from your desires for pleasure that war in your members? You lust and do not have. You murder and covet and cannot obtain. You fight and war. Yet you do not have because you do not ask. You ask and do not receive, because you ask amiss, that you may spend it on your pleasures.”*

This is the “get” way the very opposite to the “give” way that God intends us to practice, [Acts 20:35].

How about in marriage? –

Can two people who are constantly giving to each other ever fight?

Proverbs 13:10 [New King James] *“By pride comes nothing but strife, but with the well-advised is wisdom.”*

Selfish pride, in some shape or form, is at the root of any lack of peace in the home.

Learn to live and view life from the “give” standpoint and see how it builds peace in your home.

Second – determine that there will be no fighting, physical or verbal, in your home –

There will be times when someone will make you angry, frustrated or moody, but refuse to get into an argument.

Romans 12:18 [New King James] *“If it is possible, as much as depends on you, live peaceably with all men.”*

It does take two to argue or fight, if you personally refuse, to the best of your ability to be drawn in to an argument, it will soon melt away.

1 Peter 2:21-23 [New King James] *“For to this you were called, because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that you should follow His steps: ‘Who committed no sin, nor was deceit found in His mouth’; who, when He was reviled, did not revile in return; when He suffered, He did not threaten, but committed Himself to Him who judges righteously;”*

Jesus Christ set us an example to follow.

Why did Jesus Christ act like this?

Because it results in a wrong attitude if we respond to threatening speech with threats and a wrong attitude leads to wrong actions.

We must exercise self-control, this is hard to begin with but we will be encouraged to continue when we see the good results.

All children who fight or argue must be corrected and disciplined that they will learn how to cope with what will be more serious situations in adult life.

Third – what do you do when problems do occur? –

Be determined to solve problems in a quiet and peaceful manner, with the help of the Creator God.

James 3:16-18 [New King James] *“For where envy and self-seeking exist, confusion and every evil thing are there. But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality and without hypocrisy. Now the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.”*

Go to the Creator God first with your family problems, He will speak to you through His Word, the Christian Bible, as the Holy Spirit brings scriptures to remembrance.

John 14:26-27 [New King James] *“But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you. Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.”*

This is how the Creator God brings peace to any situation.

The effect that the Holy Spirit can have on a home atmosphere when the Creator God is sought first is truly amazing.

Husbands and wives, the same thing applies.

When dissension arises and one spiritually mature enough to suggests, *“let’s not fight, let’s go and pray about this.”*

If the other partner is spiritually mature enough to accept such sound advice, the Creator God will enter into the situation and can then begin to bring about peace.

Pray in a repentant attitude, each asking the Creator God to show them what they had done wrong.

It’s pretty hard to get up from heartfelt prayer, having humbly laid your troubles before God and start fighting again.

Everyone in the family has a part in maintaining peace.

But in the family kingdom, as in the nation, the example set by the leaders is all important.

These points are very basic, yet not one nation is following them, but the kingdoms of our homes can and should.

We need to be learning to be different from the world in our family, if we are going to rule this world under Jesus Christ the Prince of Peace [**Isaiah 9:6**] in the future, [**Revelation 5:9-10**].