

Many people consistently struggle with worry.

A disturbed soul is a condition based on how we respond to life experiences.

“I’ve suffered a great many catastrophes in my life. Most of them never happened.” — Mark Twain

The gift of Christmas is the light of peace.

For to us a **child is born**, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of **Peace**.
Isaiah 9:6

“Glory to God in highest heave, and **peace** on earth to those with whom God is pleased.” *Luke 2:14*

“**Peace** I leave with you; my **peace** I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be **troubled**, neither let them be **afraid**.” *John 14:27*

Ereine: Rest; quietness; when all the essential parts are joined together into a whole.

1. Replace thoughts that produce worry with thoughts that produce peace.

“If you **abide** in my **word**, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you **free**.” *John 8:31-32*

Great **peace** have those who love your **law**, and nothing can make them stumble. *Psalms 119:165*

2. Let Jesus carry the load.

“Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you **rest**. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find **rest** for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.” *Matthew 11:28-30*

Don’t worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done. Then you will experience God’s **peace**, which exceeds anything we can understand. His **peace** will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus. *Philippians 4:6-7*

Do you have **peace** today?

One Year New Testament Devotionals

Small group discussion questions related to the weekend message will resume in January 2018 during our next 10-week group cycle. Small group registration opens December 30. Use these One Year New Testament questions to discuss with your small group or answer individually.

Devotional

If you read half of a novel and then decide you’re no longer interested in reading the rest, you may miss the very best part of the book. The ending could be amazing! The book of Revelation tells us how things will end, and it will indeed be amazing. We should praise God for blessing us with a glimpse of what is to come and also remember that we still have no idea just how beautiful and majestic it will be. Set your focus on Him today. When He is central in your mind, you will be able to view the world from an eternal perspective and rejoice in what He is doing in you and through you.

December 17/18: Revelation 8:1-9:21

In what way can silence make you uncomfortable? How can you make silence a part of your worship? When could you make time this week for silent meditation on God’s word and on what God has done for you?

December 19/20: Revelation 10:1-11:19

What about this world would you most like to see changed? Why? What does it say to you that even angels with awesome power and beauty and elders with great heavenly position worship God in total humility? What changes need to take place in your personal worship of God?

December 21: Revelation 12:1-18

What do we learn about God in this chapter? What does Chapter 12 tell us about God’s people? How can you take the message of this chapter and encourage someone who is struggling?

December 22: Revelation 13:1-18

What difference does it make who we worship? What are some simple steps we can take to ensure that we give worship to God alone? What are some situations you are facing that call for patient endurance and faithfulness? How can you worship God in your attitudes and actions today?

December 23: Revelation 14:1-20

What do you think is the average person’s view of heaven? Why do you think God delays His judgment when the world is already filled with darkness and evil? How do we know that God takes our sin seriously?