

# Beatitudes: The Peacemakers

## ICE BREAKER

- What comes to mind when I hear the word 'peace'? Do I prefer peace and quiet? Why or why not?

Shalom: completeness, wholeness, health, flourishing, delight, safety, tranquility, rest; absence of agitation/discord/sin

### Matthew 5:9

- Why is it so difficult to be a peacemaker?

## FIRST INSTINCT: DIVIDE BY US VS. THEM

CATEGORIZE – concoct different groups/classes; assign a label: characterizing sin, weakness, reduce to the lowest common denominator

COMPARTMENTALIZE – to separate into ISOLATED, distinct tasks, usually to avoid conflict or discomfort...

- Do you think we have a natural tendency to blame and alienate people? Why or why not?

## NEW POSTURE: CONTEXTUALIZE

- Cease Hostilities
- Be Willing to Meet People Halfway (**1 Peter 3:15**)
- Build on Common Ground
- Focus On Our Greatest Commonality (**Romans 3:22-24**)

God is most glorified when Creation works as intended.

In a society absent of shalom it's vital that we introduce the Kingdom of peace in our daily conduct, attitudes, and words

- How can I promote peace at work, school, home, etc.?
- Ultimately, the role of a peacemaker is to connect people to Christ because He is our true source of peace. Who in my life needs the peace of being connected to Jesus? How will I take one step this week toward connecting them to Him?

**Romans 12:18; Matthew 5:43-44; Matthew 5:9**

## APPLICATION

- Do I need to surrender my life to Jesus Christ and have my sins forgiven?
- What is one takeaway from today's message?