

# LASTING PEACE

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Peace on Earth, Part 3

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*"You have heard the law that says, 'Love your neighbor' and hate your enemy. But I say, love your enemies! Pray for those who persecute you!" Matthew 5:43-44 (NLT)*

*Joy fills hearts that are planning peace! Proverbs 12:20 (NLT)*

*But God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners. Romans 5:8 (NLT)*

## When we love our enemies we'll experience ...

### 1. \_\_\_\_\_ benefits.

*A peaceful heart leads to a healthy body; jealousy is like cancer in the bones. Proverbs 14:30 (NLT)*

### 2. \_\_\_\_\_ benefits.

*For as he thinks in his heart, so is he. Proverbs 23:7 (NKJV)*

### 3. \_\_\_\_\_ benefits.

*Overlook an offense and bond a friendship; fasten on to a slight and—good-bye, friend! Proverbs 17:9 (TM)*

### 4. \_\_\_\_\_ benefits.

*"But if you refuse to forgive others, your Father will not forgive your sins." Matthew 6:15 (NLT)*

### 5. \_\_\_\_\_ benefits.

*"If all you do is love the lovable, do you expect a bonus? Anybody can do that. If you simply say hello to those who greet you, do you expect a medal? You're kingdom subjects. Now live like it. Live generously and graciously toward others, the way God lives toward you." Matthew 5:46-48 (TM)*

## Steps to lasting P - E - A - C - E

*Do all that you can to live in peace with everyone. Romans 12:18 (NLT)*

### P \_\_\_\_\_

*He [God] closely attends to the prayers of God-loyal people. Proverbs 15:29 (TM)*

*"Pray for those who hurt you." Luke 6:28 (NLT)*

### E \_\_\_\_\_

*Never seek revenge or bear a grudge against anyone but love your neighbor as yourself. Leviticus 19:18 (NLT)*

### A \_\_\_\_\_

*"Do good to those who hate you." Luke 6:27 (NLT)*

*If your enemies are hungry, give them food to eat. If they are thirsty, give them water to drink. Proverbs 25:21 (NLT)*

### C \_\_\_\_\_

*Who can say, "I have cleansed my heart; I am pure and free from sin"? Proverbs 20:9 (NLT)*

*People who conceal their sins will not prosper. Proverbs 28:13 (NLT)*

### E \_\_\_\_\_

*Imitate God, therefore, in everything you do. Ephesians 5:1 (NLT)*

*When people's lives please the LORD, even their enemies are at peace with them. Proverbs 16:7 (NLT)*

Copies of today's sermon are available on the patio.