

The Orchard Church | 20 MacLoughlin Drive, Te Puke 3119 | p+64-7-5738961

7 Dec 25 | Reconciliation – Peace with God | Romans 5:1-11 | Nelson Schonfeldt

Groups & Families Discussion Questions

Follow along with the sermon and use these questions to dive a little deeper with your group, with your families at home or for your own personal reflection.

Sermon Notes: Can you identify the main point, the subpoints and application of today's message?

Life Group Questions

- 1. Conversation Starter: If you were taking a sabbatical, ideally, how would you use the time?
- 2. According to Romans 5:1–2, where does our "peace with God" come from? How is this different from peace as a feeling or circumstance-based calm?
- 3. In what ways do people (including Christians) try to find peace apart from reconciliation with God? Why do these substitutes ultimately fall short?
- 4. Paul says we were "ungodly," "sinners," and "enemies" of God (vv.6–10). Which of those descriptions do you find most confronting or surprising, and why?
- 5. How does knowing that God reconciled us while we were still enemies shape the way you view God's attitude toward you now?
- 6. How can Christians deal with common fears like guilt, shame, or condemnation?
- 7. David Anderson says, "The hardest thing for a non-Christian to believe in is the substitutionary *death* of Christ, but the hardest thing for a Christian to believe in is the substitutionary *life* of Christ." Evaluate his statement.
- 8. What does it look like, practically, to live as someone who has been justified and reconciled to God? i.e. How can we let the experience of our condition match the reality of our position?