

# Study guide

*This study guide is designed to help you to become more familiar with the Bible. Study these passages on your own, with a friend, or with a group. If you or someone you know needs a Bible, please take one from the church. They are there for you to take home and use! Message manuscripts are available at [www.spwired.com](http://www.spwired.com).*

**Monday.** Today we'll be focusing on scriptures that look at how we can be at peace with God and with others. **Read Colossians 1:20.** This passage is telling us that what Jesus did paved the way for us to be reconciled, or be a peace with, God and that that's God's deep desire. How does it make you feel to know that there is nothing standing between you and God because of what Jesus has done? What might keep you from accepting this gift of real peace? **Read Romans 12:18.** Note that this passage implies that even when we've done what we can, we can't control other people's response to us. God's challenge to us to do **our part**. What can you do more intentionally to live a peace with others? Why is it often so hard to live in peace with others?

**Tuesday.** Today we'll look at two scriptures that address how to have peace with ourselves. **Read John 14:27.** Jesus is saying that so often the world over-promises and under-delivers. What might be different about Jesus' gift of peace from the gift of peace that might come from another source—for example material possessions or physical comfort? **Read Romans 8:6.** If you are in control of your car, what does that mean? If the Holy Spirit is in control of your life, what does that mean? Note that allowing the Holy Spirit to control your mind does not mean that you no longer have the ability, or responsibility, to make decisions. It simply means that you allow the Holy Spirit to guide those decisions, actions and reactions.

**Wednesday.** **Read Philippians 4:6-9.** In this passage what is the solution to an absence of peace (see verse 4). Notice that this passage says that God's peace will **guard** our hearts. This implies that God will not remove us from all situations where there is unrest or difficulties. It means that in the midst of those difficulties God will enable us to experience calm and focus. How do we allow this peace to take root in our lives (see vss 8-9)?

**Thursday.** **Read Romans 5:1.** Take a moment and rewrite this passage in your own words. **Read 2 Corinthians 5:15-18.** This passage talks about new beginnings and fresh starts because of Jesus' sacrifice on the cross. In what area of your life would you like a new beginning? How could that happen through a deeper relationship with Jesus? How might that affect your relationship with other people?

**Friday.** Often a lack of peace in our lives leads to weariness and a feeling of constant burden. Today's passage is one of the most joyful invitations that God, through Jesus Christ, gives to you. **Read Matthew 11:28-30.** Does the idea of rest appeal to you? Are you often weary? There is a solution to weariness and it is to keep company with Christ. To walk with him, work with him and watch how he does life. What might it mean for you to do these very things? What's stopping you? Spend time in prayer asking for and allowing yourself to experience God's deep, abiding peace.

## Prayer Concerns

### Health & Healing

Michael Bowman  
Tommy Atkins

### Cancer Treatment:

Charolette Bowzer  
Marilyn Montgomery  
Pam Clifton  
Cindy Martin  
James L. Wright  
Bod Benefiel  
Rose Hymmer  
Easton Murdock  
Joey Walker

### Grief:

The family of **John Bowzer, Sr.**

The family of **Harold Winkleman**

### Other Concerns:

Rick Bowzer  
Michael & Tina Bowman  
Watson, Pruitt & Brooks Families  
Lawrence Otey, jr.  
Matthew Otey  
Lisa Joy Otey  
Kirui Otey  
Crystal Otey

### Serving in the military:

*We honor those serving in the military by placing their names on the Military Board in the east hallway after listing new names here for one week. Please check that board regularly.*