

Missing Peace :: Part 1 :: Clay Scroggins

INTRODUCTION

Life is filled with stress tests. Some, like the loss of a job, are major. Others can seem minor in retrospect, but in the moment they loomed large--like running out of gas on the way to the airport or having your computer crash the night before a presentation. But major or minor, stress tests have a way of bringing out what is on the inside. So what do your stress tests say about you? Do you have inner peace or are you tossed about by the winds of circumstance?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1. What do you want most in life? Where does inner peace fall on that list?
- 2. As a society, we are richer and more technologically advanced than any in history. So what is it that robs us of peace?
- 3. Who do you know that exudes inner peace? How do you explain how they are able to maintain peace through the winds of circumstance?
- 4. Read John 16:33. Prior to this statement, Jesus told the disciples of his looming departure and the accompanying arrival of the Holy Spirit. When has Jesus, through the presence of the Spirit, given you peace in the midst of troubles?
- 5. Jesus guarantees we will have trouble in this life. What trouble are you currently experiencing?
- 6. We are to take heart because Jesus has overcome the world. How does this affect the way you see your current circumstances?

THINK ABOUT IT

What is one worry that is robbing you of peace? What does John 16:33 say about this worry?

WHAT WILL YOU DO?

How can you remind yourself this week that the peace of God is available to you?

CHANGING YOUR MIND

I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world. John 16:33