

GOD'S PEACE

Part 2: A Better Environment For Peace

PEACE IN A TROUBLED WORLD

- ❖ **Headlines don't even tell the whole story**
 - ◆ Racial tensions
 - ◆ Economic tensions - a roller coaster ride
 - ◆ Relational pressures - pressures on the home
- ❖ **But we have a promise (*John 14:27 NKJV*)**
 - ◆ Not begging God for more peace
 - ◆ Doing the things that allow His peace more room

A TALE OF TWO LADIES

- ❖ **Martha was stressed (*Luke 10:38-42 NASB*)**
 - ◆ Distracted - to be drawn in different ways at the same time
 - ◆ Also stressed due to unmet expectations
- ❖ **A stressed Martha lashes out**
 - ◆ Accused the Lord of not caring
 - ◆ Told the Lord what to do
- ❖ **The Lord's answer was revealing**
 - ◆ Martha, Martha - worried and troubled about many things
 - ◆ Mary made the right choice
 - ◆ Jesus never did make Mary help

CREATING A BETTER ENVIRONMENT FOR PEACE

- ❖ **Align your priorities to line up with God's**
 - ◆ More peace when it's not all about you
 - ◆ Before "seek first" is "don't worry" (*Matthew 6:31-33 NKJV*)
- ❖ **Clarify expectations**
 - ◆ Between what is expected and what is delivered...
 - ◆ Move out of your comfort zones to clarify (*1 Corinthians 14:8 NIV*)
- ❖ **Regardless of your circumstances believe that the Lord cares for you**
 - ◆ When you believe He cares...
 - Easier to believe you'll come out of a stressful time
 - You will be less prone to be accusatory or feel the need to beg
 - ◆ Believing He cares is foundational to peace (*1 Peter 5:6-7 NLT*)
 - Opens the door to offloading our cares and creates an environment for His peace to rule