

Small Group Discussion Guide

“The Incomparable Gift of God’s Peace” (Luke 2:8-14)

Compass Church - week of 12/1 to 12/6

Message from Dr. Gino Pasquariello

Icebreaker Question

What is the most peaceful moment you can remember from the past year, and what made it feel so peaceful?

1. Discovering the Text (Luke 2:8–14)

- Why do you think the angels announced peace as the defining gift connected to the birth of Jesus?
- What kind of peace were the shepherds expecting? How might their understanding differ from our modern idea of peace?
- In verse 14, the angels declare, “*Glory to God in highest heaven, and peace on earth to those with whom God is pleased.*” What does this reveal about God’s intention toward humanity?
- How would you describe the emotional and spiritual moment the shepherds experienced when heaven suddenly broke into their ordinary night shift?

2. Further Study (Other Passages)

Read the following passages and discuss how each expands the meaning of biblical peace:

- Isaiah 9:6 – Why is the Messiah called the “*Prince of Peace*”?
- John 14:27 – How is the peace Jesus gives different from the peace the world offers?
- Romans 5:1 – What does it mean to have peace with God through Jesus Christ?
- Philippians 4:6–7 – How does God’s peace guard our hearts and minds in anxious times?

3. Going Deeper

- Dr. Gino emphasized reconciliation between God and man as the core of biblical peace. Why is reconciliation a deeper need than emotional calm or circumstantial comfort?
- Where do you notice people today searching for peace in places that will never satisfy?
- Which part of God’s peace do you struggle to receive; peace with God (salvation), peace within (emotional stability), or peace with others (relational unity)?

- Why do you think the angels announced peace not after Jesus ministry, miracles, or resurrection, but at His birth?

4. Application for Today

- What is one area in your life right now where you need the peace of Christ to rule your heart?
- Is there a relationship in your life where God is prompting you to pursue reconciliation during the Christmas season?
- What practical habit could you begin this week; prayer, Scripture reading, slowing down, worship, or silence to cultivate a deeper experience of God's peace?
- Who in your life needs to hear the message of Peace on Earth? How can you share the hope of Jesus with them this week?