

P332

SERIES: PEACE IS ATTAINABLE

TITLE: How to gain peace

SONGS: ADONAI

WHEN I GET IN HIS PRESENCE

INTRO: Welcome to Grace Notes. We've been studying about peace. So far we've discussed how we can have peace with God and peace within ourselves. Our host Barbara Sandbek concluded our last program by saying that in order to have peace within ourselves, we need to focus on Jesus. But how do we do that? Stayed tuned and find out.

We all know what it's like to see an unfocused picture, don't we? I am the queen of distorted pictures – because I am untrained and impatient. It takes a good camera, good film, good light, and time to adjust the lens and line up the scene in the window. There are so many variables that come into play in producing a good product. But, once we've seen it, we cherish it.

How does this equate to our spiritual focus? Simple. We're like a camera, which has a light-proof box with a lens at one end and light-sensitive film at the other. Our minds are more sensitive than we realize. We take pictures all day long by what we see and read and even by what we hear. These pictures are recorded in our being and affect how we live. That's why that song we learned as kids is so meaningful..

'Be careful little eyes what you see. Be careful little eyes what you see. For your Father up above is looking down in love. So be careful little eyes what you see.

It probably should have had a verse that said 'Be careful little minds what you think', too, because our thoughts can run wild once our eyes take the picture.

We need to train ourselves to let only good things enter our minds. We can do this first by meditating on God's Word, the Bible. It can show us when we need a spiritual adjustment.

But meditating is not enough. James 1:23-25 says...

Do not merely listen to the Word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. Anyone who listens to the Word but does not do what

it says is like a man who looks at his face in a mirror and after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like. But the man who looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues to do this, not forgetting what he has heard, but doing it – he will be blessed in what he does.

We take the picture when we act on what we learn.

Everybody has someone they look up to. While it's not necessarily a bad thing, we can for one, be disappointed when they fall off their pedestal, or we can be steered in the wrong direction by following their ways. To ensure that we won't be tripped up, we need to follow what Hebrews 12:2a says...fix our eyes on Jesus. Jesus said..."I am the way, the truth and the life." He's the perfect example - the Light of the World - the One who can shed light on things that should be filtered out.

We have a ministry table set up at our concerts. One of the items we give away is a WWJD bracelet. I ask the children if they know what it means and if they don't, I tell them...

WWJD stands for 'What would Jesus do?'

When you wonder whether you should do something or not, just ask Jesus to show you. He never did anything wrong and He'll let you know.

The Psalmist David wrote in Psalm 34:4-5...

I sought the Lord and He answered me; He delivered me from all my fears. Those who LOOK to Him are radiant; their faces are never covered with shame.

When we look to Jesus, we won't fall for satan's tricks or be defeated - and we won't be afraid, either.

Remember when Peter began walking on water toward Jesus. He was doing fine until he lost his focus. He took his eyes off Jesus and SAW the wind and waves around him. The saying goes...

"Sorrow looks back, worry looks around, (there's Peter) but faith looks up."

David had developed a clear picture of God – as Almighty Creator, yet as His Father, too. Though he was a king, he didn't pretend to have all the

answers. He focused his mind so he could have peace in his heart even when the wind and waves of trouble struck him.

Hear David's words in Psalm 138...

**I will praise you, O Lord, with all my heart...
I will bow down toward your holy Temple and will praise Your Name
for your love and your faithfulness,
for You have exalted above all things – Your Name and Your Word.
When I called, You answered me;
You made me bold and stouthearted...
Though the Lord is on high, He looks upon the lowly,
but the proud He knows from afar.
Though I walk in the midst of trouble, You preserve my life;
You stretch out Your hand against the anger of my foes,
with Your right hand You save me.**

** **ADONAI** ***

*One single drop of rain
Your salty tear became blue ocean
One tiny grain of sand turning in your hand
A world in motion
You're out beyond the furthest Morning Star
Yet close enough to hold me in Your arms*

*Adonai, I lift up my heart and I cry
My Adonai -You're Maker of each moment
The Father of my hope and freedom
Oh, my Adonai*

*One timid faithful knock
Resounds upon the Rock of Ages
One trembling heart and soul
Becomes a servant bold and courageous
You call across the mountains and the seas
I answer from the deepest part of me*

*Adonai (Adonai), I lift up my heart and I cry
My Adonai -You are Maker of each moment
Father of my hope and freedom
Oh, my Adonai*

*Oh, From age to age you reign in Majesty
And today You're making miracles in me
Adonai, I lift up my heart and I cry
My Adonai, You are Maker of each moment
Oh, Father of my hope and freedom
Oh, my Adonai*

Philippians 4:6 says...

Be anxious for nothing, but in everything, by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace, which passes all understanding will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

There's a formula here – Pray, petition and praise in the presence of the Lord. For where the presence of the Lord is – there is peace.

**** WHEN I GET IN HIS PRESENCE *****

Chorus

***When I get in His presence
When I get in His presence
Every doubt I face in a moment goes away
When I get in His presence
When I get in His presence
When I get in the presence of the Lord***

***There's a place that I love to be
A place, a special place, my father made for me
And in that place I find all I need
It's the presence of Jesus that brings security***

Repeat Chorus

***There's a day when you and I will be gone
A day, a special day, we'll hear the angels' song
Then we'll awaken at last in our new home
And hear our Father's welcome,
"My child well done".***

Repeat Chorus

***When we get in His presence
When we get in His presence
We're in the presence of the Lord.***

We pray you've been blessed by this program. If so, please write and tell us at..

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Join us on our next program. Until then, let your grace notes be a song of praise!