

LIVING AT PEACE IN DIFFICULT DAYS

Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives.
Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid (John 14:27 NIV).

- 1 Father, You are our security. Please help Your children to rest in You in these unsettling days. "In peace I will lie down and sleep, for you alone, LORD, make me dwell in safety" (Psalm 4:8 [all verses are NIV unless noted otherwise]).
- 2 We ask You, Father, to give clarity and direction to our leaders and government officials. Please remove any confusion that may be at work in our government. "God is not a God of confusion but of peace" (1 Corinthians 14:33 ESV).
- 3 As more and more cities undergo lock-down, pray that Christian families will strive for peace within the home. "If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone" (Romans 12:18).
- 4 Father, how easily our hearts can become troubled and fearful. Please help Your people to trust in and cling to Jesus' promise of peace. "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid" (John 14:27).
- 5 As the virus continues to claim lives around the globe, pray that God's people will not live in fear. Ask God to comfort your family, friends, and neighbors. "Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me" (Psalm 23:4 ESV).
- 6 Father, please strengthen Your people to prioritize hearing from You and waling in obedience to Your Word. "'Do not be afraid, you who are highly esteemed,' he said. 'Peace! Be strong now; be strong.' When he spoke to me, I was strengthened" (Daniel 10:19).
- 7 Father, please give Your people creative ways to love and serve the spiritually lost in a culture of social distancing. "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you" (John 20:21).
- 8 What a privilege we have to serve the God of peace. Take a few moments today to comfort your soul and thank Him that His victory over Satan is sure! "The God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet. The grace of our Lord Jesus be with you" (Romans 16:20).
- 9 Father, we receive Your blessing of peace! Strengthen Your people to show love to their neighbors and share with them Your comfort. "The LORD gives strength to his people; the LORD blesses his people with peace" (Psalm 29:11).
- 10 Pray that Jesus will be lifted up as the answer to the world's greatest needs: grace, mercy, and peace from God. "Grace, mercy and peace from God the Father and from Jesus Christ, the Father's Son, will be with us in truth and love" (2 John 1:3).
- 11 Pray that the peace of God will guard the hearts and minds of His people in Christ Jesus. "The peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 4:7).
- 12 Father, please use Your people to boldly proclaim the gospel of peace within their communities. "He came and preached peace to you who were far away and peace to those who were near" (Ephesians 2:17).
- 13 Pray that God's Spirit would bring many in our nation into a time of self-examination. Ask Him to expose the sin which so easily hinders peace with God and our fellow man. "Make every effort to be found spotless, blameless and at peace with [God]" (2 Peter 3:14).
- 14 This world desperately needs to see the fruit of God's Spirit manifested in the lives of believers. Pray that your church family will walk in the Spirit and bear much fruit! "The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law" (Galatians 5:22-23 ESV).

- 15** Father, we ask You to turn the hearts of sinners to repentance. Draw the families in my community into peace with You through faith in Jesus. “Turn from evil and do good; seek peace and pursue it” (Psalm 34:14).
- 16** Father, we pray that the lack of peace in people’s hearts would help them understand that they are missing out on Your abiding presence. Use this unrest to draw them closer to Yourself. “If the home is deserving, let your peace rest on it; if it is not, let your peace return to you” (Matthew 10:13).
- 17** Father, please open the blind eyes of the spiritually lost in my community to see that Jesus is the only way they can ever have peace for their souls. “If you, even you, had only known on this day what would bring you peace—but now it is hidden from your eyes” (Luke 19:42).
- 18** Where there is tension and conflict between believers in your community, ask God to rule over His people through the peace of Christ in their hearts. “Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful” (Colossians 3:15).
- 19** Father, we ask You to speak to the storm of fear and unrest that besets our land. Rule over us, Jesus, and bring peace to all through the Holy Spirit. “A furious squall came up, and the waves broke over the boat, so that it was nearly swamped. Jesus was in the stern, sleeping on a cushion. The disciples woke him and said to him, ‘Teacher, don’t you care if we drown?’ He got up, rebuked the wind and said to the waves, ‘Quiet! Be still!’ Then the wind died down and it was completely calm” (Mark 4:37-39).
- 20** Father, unless this nation repents and returns to You, we will know no peace or rest. Please bring about a great revival and spiritual awakening that establishes You as the one true God. “. . . so that I come again to my father’s house in peace, then the LORD shall be my God” (Genesis 28:21 ESV).
- 21** Father, thank You for overcoming the world. Thank You for giving Your people peace in the midst of trying and difficult times. “I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world” (John 16:33 ESV).
- 22** When trials endure, our trust in God can begin to waver. Pray that God will keep your church family steadfastly anchored in His peace. “You will keep in perfect peace those whose minds are steadfast, because they trust in you” (Isaiah 26:3).
- 23** Pray for the peace and unity of the church. Now more than ever, the world needs to see the oneness that comes from being united in Christ. “He himself is our peace, who has made the two groups one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility, by setting aside in his flesh the law with its commands and regulations. His purpose was to create in himself one new humanity out of the two, thus making peace” (Ephesians 2:14-15).
- 24** Father, we truly are a people in need of Your help. We ask You to give Your peace to those who follow You, and help them continue in Your ways. “Peace, peace to you, and peace to your helpers! For your God helps you” (1 Chronicles 12:18 ESV).
- 25** Father, as surely as You are our peace, guard our souls from taking that peace for granted by acting carelessly or with foolishness. “I will listen to what God the LORD says; he promises peace to his people, his faithful servants—but let them not turn to folly” (Psalm 85:8).
- 26** Ask God to make His presence known among His people this morning, whether they are able to gather together or are still separated by quarantine. “Now may the Lord of peace himself give you peace at all times and in every way. The Lord be with all of you” (2 Thessalonians 3:16).
- 27** Pray that God will honor the efforts of His people to maintain peace with others by blessing their lives with righteousness. “Peacemakers who sow in peace reap a harvest of righteousness” (James 3:18).
- 28** Father, please give Your people the grace to daily set their minds on the life and peace that comes from walking in the Holy Spirit. “To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace” (Romans 8:6 ESV).
- 29** Pray that Christians in your community will always demonstrate righteousness, peace, and joy in the Holy Spirit. “The kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking, but of righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit, because anyone who serves Christ in this way is pleasing to God and receives human approval. Let us therefore make every effort to do what leads to peace and to mutual edification” (Romans 14:17-19).
- 30** Pray that the kingdom of God will overwhelmingly advance through the faithfulness, encouragement, and unity of His people. “Finally, brothers and sisters, rejoice! Strive for full restoration, encourage one another, be of one mind, live in peace. And the God of love and peace will be with you” (2 Corinthians 13:11).