

For, "Whoever would love life and see good days must keep his tongue from evil and his lips from deceitful speech. He must turn from evil and do good; he must seek peace and pursue it. For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous and his ears are attentive to their prayer, but the face of the Lord is against those who do evil." 1 Peter 3:10-12 (NIV)

Peacemaker

Do you want to live the life that I have called you to live? Yes, of course I want to live the life that you have called me to live. **Do you want to enjoy life and see many good days?** Yes, who would not want that? **Do you want me to hear and answer your prayers?** Most of all I want you to hear and answer my prayers. **Why is that?** I want to know you. I want to love you with all my heart and mind and soul and strength. I want to live in a close and intimate relationship with you. I want to hear your voice. I want to know and do your will. In every way I want to do what pleases you. When you asked, "Do you want me to hear and answer you prayers?" I was not thinking that you asked, "Do you want me to give you everything you ask for?" **What were you thinking?** I was thinking of living in a back and forth conversation with you. My prayers are a conversation with you. I want to draw near to you. I want you to draw near to me. I want to talk to you. I want you to talk to me. **That is very good.** Isn't that a desire that you have put into my heart? **Yes, it is.**

There are some things that you must do with your life if you want to live in a close and intimate relationship with me. You have my full attention. **Oh no, you have my full attention. You tell me what you must do.** I thought you might say that. I must turn away from evil and do good. **How will that be demonstrated?** I will keep a very close guard over the words of my mouth. I will keep my lips from speaking evil. I will use the words of my mouth for doing good. **How will that be demonstrated?** The words of my mouth will be an expression of seeking and pursuing peace. I will not allow my words to fan flames of conflict. My words will lead to peace. You will use my words to bring about peace. **Yes, I will. What else?** I'm not sure what else there is to say. I know that turning away from evil and pursuing peace will allow me to love life, see many good days and live the life that you have called me to live. **Yes, it will. There is more.** You will hear my prayers. **Yes, I will.** Many of our conversations will be about you using me as a peacemaker in the world. You want me to be a peacemaker. **Yes, I do. That is how I will use your life. That is how you will learn to love life and see many good days. You will be a peacemaker for me.**

Lord, I will turn away from evil and do good. I will seek peace and pursue it. I will keep a close guard over the words that come out of my mouth. I want to love the life you have given me to live with and for you. Hear and answer my prayers as I follow you. Amen

Character*Seek Peace*

For, "Whoever would love life and see good days must keep his tongue from evil and his lips from deceitful speech. He must turn from evil and do good; he must seek peace and pursue it. For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous and his ears are attentive to their prayer, but the face of the Lord is against those who do evil."

NIV

1 Peter 3:10-12

Character*Search For Peace*

For the Scriptures say, "If you want to enjoy life and see many happy days, keep your tongue from speaking evil and your lips from telling lies. Turn away from evil and do good. Search for peace, and work to maintain it. The eyes of the Lord watch over those who do right, and his ears are open to their prayers. But the Lord turns his face against those who do evil."

NLT

1 Peter 3:10-12

Character*Seek Peace*

For "Those who desire life and desire to see good days, let them keep their tongues from evil and their lips from speaking deceit; let them turn away from evil and do good; let them seek peace and pursue it. For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous, and his ears are open to their prayer. But the face of the Lord is against those who do evil."

NRSV

1 Peter 3:10-12

Character*Search For Peace*

For let him who wants to enjoy life and see good days [good—whether apparent or not] keep his tongue free from evil and his lips from guile (treachery, deceit). Let him turn away from wickedness and shun it, and let him do right. Let him search for peace (harmony; undisturbedness from fears, agitating passions, and moral conflicts) and seek it eagerly. [Do not merely desire peaceful relations with God, with your fellowmen, and with yourself, but pursue, go after them!] For the eyes of the Lord are upon the righteous (those who are upright and in right standing with God), and His ears are attentive to their prayer. But the face of the Lord is against those who practice evil [to oppose them, to frustrate, and defeat them].

AMP

1 Peter 3:10-12

Character*Seek Peace*

For, "THE ONE WHO DESIRES LIFE, TO LOVE AND SEE GOOD DAYS, MUST KEEP HIS TONGUE FROM EVIL AND HIS LIPS FROM SPEAKING DECEIT. "HE MUST TURN AWAY FROM EVIL AND DO GOOD; HE MUST SEEK PEACE AND PURSUE IT. "FOR THE EYES OF THE LORD ARE TOWARD THE RIGHTEOUS, AND HIS EARS ATTEND TO THEIR PRAYER, BUT THE FACE OF THE LORD IS AGAINST THOSE WHO DO EVIL."

NASB

1 Peter 3:10-12

Character*Seek Peace*

For "Whoever desires to love life and see good days, let him keep his tongue from evil and his lips from speaking deceit; let him turn away from evil and do good; let him seek peace and pursue it. For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous, and his ears are open to their prayer. But the face of the Lord is against those who do evil."

ESV

1 Peter 3:10-12

Character*Seek Peace*

For "He who would love life And see good days, Let him refrain his tongue from evil, And his lips from speaking deceit. Let him turn away from evil and do good; Let him seek peace and pursue it. For the eyes of the LORD are on the righteous, And His ears are open to their prayers; But the face of the LORD is against those who do evil."

NKJV

1 Peter 3:10-12

Character*Run After Peace*

Whoever wants to embrace life and see the day fill up with good, Here's what you do: Say nothing evil or hurtful; Snub evil and cultivate good; run after peace for all you're worth. God looks on all this with approval, listening and responding well to what he's asked; But he turns his back on those who do evil things.

MSG

1 Peter 3:10-12

Character*Live In Peace*

If you want a happy, good life, keep control of your tongue, and guard your lips from telling lies. Turn away from evil and do good. Try to live in peace even if you must run after it to catch and hold it! For the Lord is watching his children, listening to their prayers; but the Lord's face is hard against those who do evil.

TLB

1 Peter 3:10-12

Character*Look For Peace*

The Scripture says, "A person must do these things to enjoy life and have many happy days. He must not say evil things, and he must not tell lies. He must stop doing evil and do good. He must look for peace and work for it. The Lord sees the good people and listens to their prayers. But the Lord is against those who do evil."

NCV

1 Peter 3:10-12

Pursue Peace

Year ____ Week ____ Day ____ Date ____

Character – 1 Peter 3:10-12

In Context: *Read 1 Peter 3*

Begin With Prayer:

Here I am Lord. I Am Listening.

Meditating On God’s Word: ***(What is God speaking to your heart?)***

For, "Whoever would love life and see good days must keep his tongue from evil and his lips from deceitful speech. He must turn from evil and do good; he must seek peace and pursue it. For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous and his ears are attentive to their prayer, but the face of the Lord is against those who do evil." 1 Peter 3:10-12

Considering The Words: ***(What words speak to your heart?)***

For, | "Whoever would | love life | and | see good days | must keep | his tongue | from evil | and | his lips | from deceitful speech. | He must | turn from evil | and | do good; | he must | seek peace | and pursue it. | For the eyes | of the Lord | are on | the righteous and | his ears | are attentive | to | their prayer, | but the face | of the Lord | is against | those who | do evil." 1 Peter 3:10-12

Praying The Scripture: ***(What prayer from your heart will you write?)***

Lord, I will turn away from evil and do good. I will seek peace and pursue it. I will keep a close guard over the words that come out of my mouth. I want to love the life you have given me to live with and for you. Hear and answer my prayers as I follow you. Amen

What It Means: ***(What questions speak to your heart?)*** *(Suggested questions for small group discussion are in bold)*

What will you do if you want to love life and see many good days?

How will your own behavior determine if you will love life and experience good days?

How are you closely guarding the words that come out of your mouth?

When have your good words been an expression of seeking and pursuing peace?

When have your bad words fanned flames of conflict in your relationships with other people?

How are you continually turning from evil so you will be able to do the good God has planned for you to do?

What will you continually do if you want God to hear and answer your prayers?

Living It Out: ***(What action step is God guiding your heart to take?)***

Turn from evil and do good so you will be able to love the life that the Lord has given you to live for Him.

Seeing It Happen: ***(What are you trusting God for in your heart?)***

Have faith that you will love life and have good days as you live the life that He has called you to live for Him

Get Ready To Share: ***(What can you share with others from your heart?)***

Share with another person or your small group how you are seeking and pursuing peace in all your relationships.

Close With Prayer:

Quiet Yourself Before The Lord

Pause And Offer Prayers Of...

With An Attitude Of Faith Listen To What The Lord Wants To Say To You

Adoration... _____

Thanksgiving... _____

Confession... _____

Intercession... _____

Petition... _____

Journal

As You Quiet Yourself Before The Lord

What Do You Want To Say To Me Lord?

What Prayers Are You Praying Today?

Prayer Of Blessing

(What Prayer Of Blessing Can You Pray For Another?)

May you turn from evil and do good as you seek peace and pursue it.

Prayer To Carry

(What Prayer Would You Like To Carry Throughout Your Day?)

Lord, I will turn from evil and do good as I seek peace and pursue it.

What Do You Want To Remember About Today?

A Question To Ask God

(What Would You Like To Ask God?)

Lord, how can I turn from evil and do good as I seek peace and pursue it today?
