

“How to Experience an Other-worldly Peace.”

John 14:15-31

A. My part in Peaceful Living.

1. Love and Obey.

John 14:15, “If you love me, obey my commandments.”

- “Since” you love me, (the obvious result will be) obey my commandments.”
- Which of Jesus’ commandments seem unreasonable to you?

2. Accept and Obey.

John 14:21, “Those who accept my commandments and obey them are the ones who love me. And because they love me, my Father will love them. And I will love them and reveal myself to each of them.”

- The Love test = “accept and obey.”
- Loving Jesus (which also means “accept and obey”) REVEALS Jesus. Asking to know Jesus’ will and direction for your life is a frustrating venture without the “love, accept, and obey” part.

3. Remember and Learn.

John 14:26, “But when the Father sends the Advocate as my representative—that is, the Holy Spirit—he will teach you everything and will remind you of everything I have told you.”

- The Spirit prompts our memory. Put stuff in the brain so it CAN be remembered.
- The Spirit teaches “everything.” It’s our job to be a good student, take notes, attend class, ask questions, and do the lab-work.

4. Believe.

John 14:29, “I have told you these things before they happen so that when they do happen, you will believe.”

- Believe because He told us in advance what would happen, and it did.
- In our case we are happy to have 20/20 spiritual hindsight!

MAIN POINT: When we love, accept, obey, and believe Jesus we've done OUR PART for peace.

B. God's part in Peaceful Living.

1. Advocate.

John 14:17, 26, "He is the Holy Spirit, who leads into all truth. The world cannot receive him, because it isn't looking for him and doesn't recognize him. But you know him, because he lives with you now and later will be in you ... ²⁶ But when the Father sends the Advocate as my representative—that is, the Holy Spirit—he will teach you everything and will remind you of everything I have told you."

- The Holy Spirit is the presence of Jesus in our lives. "He lives with you *now* and later will be *in you*."
- The Holy Spirit is our advocate, companion, and helper. He's our spiritual "smartphone."

2. Resurrection.

John 14:20, "When I am raised to life again, you will know that I am in my Father, and you are in me, and I am in you."

- God's ultimate peace-giving act was the resurrection.
- The resurrection demonstrates God's power over death!

3. Gift of Peace.

John 14:27, "I am leaving you with a gift—peace of mind and heart. And the peace I give is a gift the world cannot give. So don't be troubled or afraid."

- Gifts are received, not earned. You do YOUR PART (see above) and trust God for His peace.
- God's peace isn't "the absence of stress." God's peace comes from having the solid foundation of faith ... Isaiah 26:3-4, "You will keep in perfect peace all

who trust in you, all whose thoughts are fixed on you! ⁴Trust in the LORD always, for the LORD GOD is the eternal Rock.”

4. Obey the Father.

John 14:30-31, “I don’t have much more time to talk to you, because the ruler of this world approaches. He has no power over me, ³¹ but I will do what the Father requires of me, so that the world will know that I love the Father. Come, let’s be going.”

- Jesus lead by example ... “I will do what the father requires of me,” and “come, let’s go.”
- NOTICE: The “ruler of this world” has no power of Jesus. Since we are in Christ, he has no power over us either!

A closing prayer ... “Dear God, help us with our part. We trust you with Your part. Amen.”