**“Peace In the Gap”**

Going deeper in Romans 5:1-11

**INTRODUCTION** The Apostle Paul in the previous chapters has shown how salvation is by faith through grace alone always. Paul has used David and Abraham as examples to show that salvation by faith rather than the law has always been the route into life with God. He has also shown how the culmination of this faith by grace was in the Lord Jesus’ life, death, resurrection. Two of the words he uses to describe this is justification and reconciliation.

**READ** – *Read (passage) aloud. Read it several times. Listen for what the Spirit of God is saying, don’t just think about it.* 1 Since we have been justified with God by faith we are at peace with God. This is through what was done by the Lord Jesus Christ. 2 By faith through grace a door has been thrown open. We are now standing up with overwhelming joy because of the hope of the glory of God that has been given to us. 3 Not only that, but we continue to shout praise even when we have troubles because we know that our troubles can produce passionate patience 4 and patience produces rock solid integrity and integrity produces hope 5 and hope does not disappoint us because the love of God has been generously poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was freely given to us. 6 For at just the right time while we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. 7 Only rarely will someone die for someone else, even a righteous person. Someone who is good and noble might make this kind selfless sacrifice, 8 but God clearly demonstrated his own love for us by dying for us while we were sinful. 9 Now that we have been reconciled with God by means of his sacrificial death there is no longer any question about the wrath of God because we have been saved through him. 10 For while we were actively opposed to God and his purposes we were reconciled to God through the sacrificial death of his son. But it is not only that! Because we have been reconciled to God, we will be saved by his life. 11 And not only that, we are joyfully living in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have received this reconciliation.

**ENGAGE** – *Questions for going deeper. God is speaking… to you.*

1. What do you think the Apostle Paul means by “peace with God?” What does that say about God and God’s intentions for humanity?

2. Who initiated the peace treaty?

3. What was the cost of this peace treaty?

4. Now that we are at peace with God does that mean we will not experience trials and tribulation?

5. According to verse 3-5 what can happen in the hard times? How do we help one another grow in this?

6. What does it tell you about the nature of God that he would die for you when you were still sinful?

**PRAY** – *God has spoken. So, reply.*

\*Thank the Lord Jesus Christ for the peace treaty he has made with you.

\*Praise the Lord for giving you free access into a peace-filled life with him.

\*If you have not decided to put your faith in Jesus yet why not ask him to give you the power to trust him as the Lord of your life?

\*If you have put your faith in Jesus, ask him to fill you with the Holy Spirit so you can live with his peace and joy today even in the trials.

**LIVE** – *This is where the rubber hits the road.*

Because of the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, you can have peace with God. This peace-filled life at work in you can produce passionate patience, rock solid integrity, and hope. How will others see the peace of God at work in you this week?