

## **ELEMENT OF WORSHIP:**

### **Giving of the Peace**

*We enjoy and extend the peace of the gospel to one another.*

## **DEFINITION**

The Giving of the Peace is the practical application of the Assurance of Pardon. Because of Christ's work on our behalf, we have peace with God and peace with one another.

*But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. For he himself is our peace, who has made us both one and has broken down in his flesh the dividing wall of hostility.*

Ephesians 2:13-14

## **DEVOTIONAL**

To fully grasp the beauty displayed in the Giving of the Peace, we must first grasp the seriousness of our situation apart from Jesus. The reality of the Fall is that all people stand opposed to God. We have rejected his rule and sought to establish ourselves as kings and queens. In this sense, we are God's enemies because of our sin. And yet,

---

it is at that very point, when we stand condemned as God's enemies, that Jesus reconciles us to God (Romans 5:10). This reconciliation affects not only our relationship with God, but our relationships with one another. This is why we proclaim that we have peace with God and peace with one another. The giving of the peace, then, is the physical representation of this spiritual reality. The giving of the peace each week is a reminder of the peace that was won by our friend and Savior, Jesus Christ.

## **APPLICATION**

Jesus says blessed are the peacemakers. Because of Christ's work on the cross, our peace with God is an objective reality. So, too, is our peace with one another. But this peace has not yet been realized in its fullness here on earth. This is the heart of the ministry of reconciliation given to us by Christ (2 Corinthians 5:11-21). Today, consider your relationships. Where do you see the need for reconciliation? Consider how you might work toward reconciliation as a follower of Jesus.

---

*God of reconciliation, thank you for the peace that is mine in Christ Jesus. Make me into a peacemaker in every sense of the word. Reveal areas of division and violence in my own life. Just as I've been reconciled to you, lead me now to be a reconciler on your behalf. Amen.*