# GOOD NEWS IN



# TROUBLING TIMES



MCA

#### **Sermon Outline**

#### **Key verses**

Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, <sup>14</sup> "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth **peace** to those on whom his favor rests."

Luke 2:13-14

## Jesus helps us discover peace

Peace comes in the midst of storms

Suddenly a furious storm came up on the lake, so that the waves swept over the boat. But Jesus was sleeping.

Matthew 8:24

### 2. Peace guards our hearts

Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. <sup>7</sup> And the **peace** of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Philippians 4:6-7

#### 3. Peace is a person

For he himself is our **peace**.

Ephesians 2:14a

# FINDING PEACE

DECEMBER 8
DISCUSSION GUIDE

### **Opening Thought** (emphasize today's main idea)

The good news of Christmas is that Jesus is the Prince of Peace. Typically, when we think of peace, we think about the absence of conflict. But the biblical meaning of the word for peace refers to wholeness and completeness in life. Through Jesus you can have peace, even amidst chaos!

## Ice breakers (get everyone talking)

- On a scale of 1-10 how chaotic is your life right now?
- What is your favorite Christmas movie?
- What is the worst holiday flavor? The best? (pumpkin spice, cranberry, eggnog, gingerbread, peppermint, etc.)

#### **Dig Deeper** (get into the Word)

- Read John 14:27. How is the peace Christ brings distinct from the type of peace the world promises?
- Read Philippians 4:6-7. What does it mean that God's peace guards our hearts and minds?
- What does Biblical peace look like in your life?
- Read Isaiah 9:6-7. What seems to be the extent of the peace promised? How will that peace be established?
- In Romans 16:20, Paul promises us that the God of peace will soon crush Satan under our feet. How does God's peace and power protect us in spiritual warfare?
- How does peace with God enable peace with other humans?
- Where have you been sensing a lack of peace in your own life?

## Closing (wrap it with a challenge)

The Lord wants to use you as a herald of the good news. Peace today, and peace for all eternity for all who accept God's free gift of salvation through faith in Christ. Who among your family, friends, classmates, neighbors, and coworkers needs to know the peace of Christ?