

SIF

Suzhou International Fellowship

The
FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

GALATIANS 5:22-23

PEACE

Feb. 12, 2023



Recap

Why was '**Galatians**' written?

Slides and audio recordings are available at
www.thesif.org/sermons

Galatians 5:22-23 NIV

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, **peace**, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Against such things there is no law.



P₃

E₁

A₁

C₃

E₁

Climate Crisis





Greenhouse Gas Emissions



Peace as a Fruit



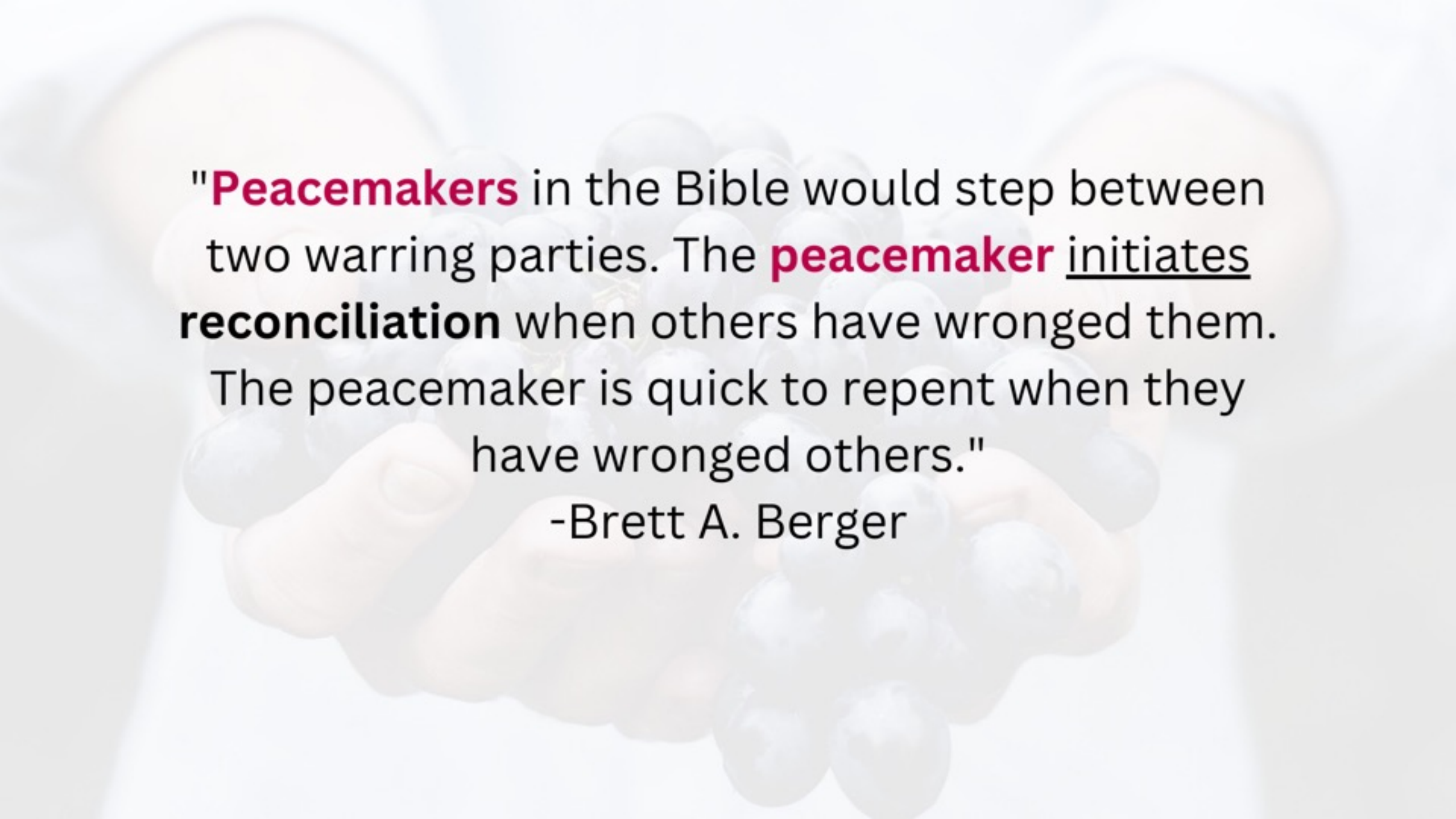
Peace with others



A pair of hands, one on the left and one on the right, are shown holding a bunch of blueberries. The hands are cupped together, and the blueberries are piled in the center. The background is a soft, out-of-focus light color. The text is overlaid on the image.

Matthew 5:9 (NET)

Blessed are the **peacemakers**, for they will be called the children of God.

A pair of hands, one light-skinned and one dark-skinned, are shown holding a bunch of blueberries. The hands are positioned as if presenting the fruit. The background is a soft, out-of-focus light blue.

"**Peacemakers** in the Bible would step between two warring parties. The **peacemaker** initiates reconciliation when others have wronged them. The peacemaker is quick to repent when they have wronged others."

-Brett A. Berger



A close-up, over-the-shoulder shot of a person wearing a beige turtleneck sweater. Their hands are clasped together in a prayerful gesture, with fingers interlaced. The background is softly blurred, showing what appears to be a church interior with other people. The lighting is warm and natural.

Peace
with **God**

A woman with long dark hair, wearing a white button-down shirt, is looking out from a dark, arched opening. Her expression is serious and contemplative. The background is dimly lit, showing some architectural details and a person's arm in the foreground. The overall mood is somber and reflective.

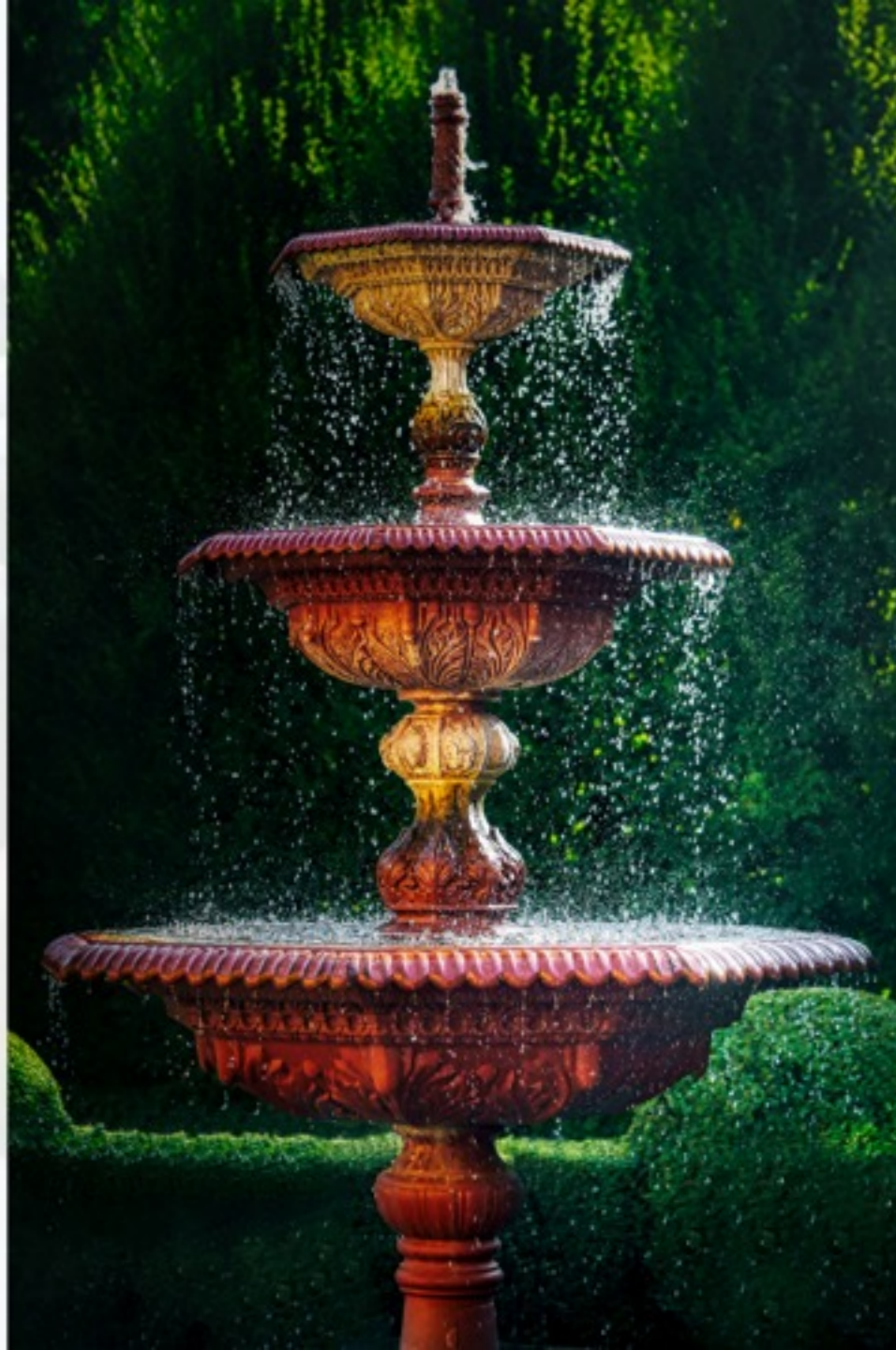
Peace
with **Self**



**Here's
why...**

Fountain

An ideal Analogy



John 7:37-39 (ESV)

On the last day of the feast, the great day, Jesus stood up and cried out, “If anyone thirsts, let him come to me and drink. Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, ‘Out of his heart will flow rivers of **living water**.’” Now this he said about the **Spirit, whom those who believed in him were to receive**, for as yet the Spirit had not been given, because Jesus was not yet glorified.

**Direction
of
Flow**



Top



Bottom

God →

Self →

Others →



$$M = \left(\frac{x_1 + x_2}{2}, \frac{y_1 + y_2}{2} \right)$$

$$ax^2 + bx + c = 0$$

The Peace Equation



$$A = \pi r^2$$

$$a + (b + c) = (a + b) + c$$

$$PwG + PwS + PwO = x$$

Where

PwG: Peace with God

PwS: Peace with Self

PwO: Peace with Others

x: value from 0 to 1

*The Peace
Equation*

$$P (G + S + O) = X$$

Where

P: Peace

G: God

S: Self

O: Others

x: value between 0 and 1

*The Peace
Equation*

When **X** is zero

$$P (G + S + O) = 0$$

When **X** is 1

$$P(G + S + O) = 1$$

1

-Unity

-Togetherness

-Wholeness

1 Corinthians 12:12&13 (NET)

For just as the body is **one** and yet has many members, and all the members of the body—though many—are **one** body, so too is Christ. For in **one** Spirit we were all baptized into **one** body. Whether Jews or Greeks or slaves or free, we were all made to drink of the **one** Spirit.

Psalm 133 (NET)

Look! How **good** and how **pleasant** it is when brothers truly live in **unity**. It is like fine oil poured on the head, which flows down the beard—Aaron's beard, and then flows down his garments. It is like the dew of Hermon, which flows down upon the hills of Zion. Indeed, that is where the Lord has decreed a blessing will be available—eternal life.

Galatians 5 (ESV)

13-15

For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another. For the whole law is fulfilled in one word: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” But if you **bite** and **devour** one another, **watch out** that you are not **consumed** by one another.

25&26

If we live by the Spirit, let us also keep in step with the Spirit. Let us not become **conceited**, **provoking** one another, **envying** one another.

Mark 3:24&25 (ESV)

If a kingdom is **divided** against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. And if a house is **divided** against itself, that house will not be able to stand.

Example of the Early Church

Acts 2:1, 44-47 (NIV)

When the day of Pentecost came, they were all **together** in **one** place.

All the believers were **together** and had everything in common. They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. Every day they continued to **meet together** in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and **ate together** with **glad** and **sincere hearts**, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.



The Prerequisites for **Peace**

1.

**A
Sincere
Heart**

Acts 2:46



2.



Truth

Therefore, having put away falsehood, let each one of you **speak the truth** with his neighbor, for we are members one of another. Ephesians 4:25 (ESV)

3.



Fairness

Now in those days, when the disciples were growing in number, a **complaint** arose on the part of the Greek-speaking Jews against the native Hebraic Jews, because their widows were being overlooked in the daily distribution of food.

Acts 6:1 (NET)

Dos and Don'ts

1. Do not backbite or slander
2. Listen to both sides
3. Seek Reconciliation/Forgiveness
4. Develop conflict-resolution skills
5. Temperance (control your anger)
6. Avoid unnecessary arguments/fights
7. Don't give destructive criticism
8. Don't discriminate
9. Give Honour and Respect
10. Celebrate what is good.

Summary

A background image showing a pair of hands holding a bunch of blueberries. The hands are cupped together, and the blueberries are the central focus, appearing fresh and vibrant. The lighting is soft, creating a gentle glow around the fruit.

1. The Fountain
2. The Peace Equation
3. Example of the Early Church
4. The Prerequisites for Peace