

**PRAY**

Lord Jesus Christ, all the violence of the earth dissolved against you. On the cross you brought peace between heaven and earth. To follow you means to passionately seek the peace that the world is not able to bring about on its own. I pray to you Lord: Heal me where I am unfree, dependent and hurt. Let me be free and strong in order to bring peace and withstand violence. Let me give witness to the Gospel of peace day by day. Amen.

**CONTEMPLATE**

One person reads the Bible passage aloud.
Short silence.

Exchange: What particularly appealed to you?

**STUDY**

1. Read DOCAT text sentence-for-sentence. Then one person reads the text aloud in full.
2. Three minutes of silence.
3. Each person reads a word or phrase aloud (without comment) that he or she has noticed.
4. Explain briefly in the next round why you have chosen the sentence (e.g. memories, questions, etc.).

**DISCUSS**

Also discuss your own questions on this topic!

Treasure Book: Take five minutes to write down what you don't want to forget.

**CHALLENGE**

Our **CHALLENGES** are just suggestions you can make in addition to your study guide meetings. You can also replace them with stronger, more fitting, more original or better ones. Just let us know at feedback@youcat.org.

#DOCATChallenge: Share your experience on Facebook or Instagram.

**Ps 34:14-15**

Turn away from evil and do good; seek peace and pursue it. The eyes of the Lord are toward the righteous and his ears toward their cry.

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Why must Christians spread peace?

Jesus Christ established peace between heaven and earth and opened all the doors to a life of reconciliation and inner joy. But his peace does not spread by itself. Human beings have the freedom to accept God's offer of reconciliation in faith or to reject it in disbelief. In order to make their decision, people must first hear that peace is possible in God, both in their personal lives and also between hostile groups and nations. They can learn about this if they encounter people who have been reconciled: people who do not hit back, do not take revenge, do not use violence. Sharing the Gospel of peace in word and deed creates the beginnings of more and more genuine peace.

1. Have you ever experienced your heart „full of peace“ in such a manner as to feel in harmony with all you had, have or that is about to come in your life? Why did this condition not last?
2. Why do Paul and the Gospels assert that Jesus was a „peacemaker“? (in Eph 2:14)
3. What do you think about the saying: „Okay, I forgive you, but I won't forget that!“?
4. Why should you repay evil with good (1 Pet. 3:9); and why is forgiveness a crucial component for peace?

Search the web for the great peacemakers of mankind. In what ways do they stand out? Print pictures of a particularly impressive man and talk about him when you meet next time.

Do you take on this challenge?

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