

Ephesians 2:16-22 (The Message)

¹⁶⁻¹⁸ Christ brought us together through his death on the cross. The Cross got us to embrace, and that was the end of the hostility. Christ came and preached peace to you outsiders and peace to us insiders. He treated us as equals, and so made us equals. Through him, we both share the same Spirit and have equal access to the Father.

19-22 That's plain enough, isn't it? You're no longer wandering exiles. This kingdom of faith is now your home country. You're no longer strangers or outsiders. You belong here, with as much right to the name Christian as anyone. God is building a home. He's using us all—irrespective of how we got here—in what he is building. He used the apostles and prophets for the foundation. Now he's using you, fitting you in brick by brick, stone by stone, with Christ Jesus as the cornerstone that holds all the parts together. We see it taking shape day after day—a holy temple built by God, all of us built into it, a temple in which God is quite at home.

Th	ree things about peace
1.	There is peace in
	• does not allow exclusion.
	• We find peace in unity, but that does not mean
2.	There is peace in
	• Peace is not a thing, it's a
	• Peace is not an to uphold or a feeling to
	• Peace is the of God in his people.
3.	Peace is always

Next Steps

- 1. In what areas of my life do I sense a need for peace?
- 2. In what ways do I search for peace apart from Christ? How has this worked for me? Have they brought lasting peace?
- 3. Memorize this verse: "I am leaving you with a gift—peace of mind and heart. And the peace I give is a gift the world cannot give. So don't be troubled or afraid." John 14:27 (NLT)