

Uncharted Territory: Taking Life Where You've Never Been

Week Eight: *Peace That Changes Everything*

When we understand and fully live in our identity in Jesus, we are able to trust God with our circumstances and challenges in a very different manner than most people do. Our identity in Christ enables a unique peace to come over us as we rest in the purposes God has for our challenges. We are able to see growth and maturing as a more valuable reality than simply having our troubles eased.

This week, make a commitment to *one space of quality time with God* to meditate on God's Word slowly and carefully, to journal through this exercise, and surrender to God for His help.

A Single Exercise: *How is God at work in my circumstances?*

Read slowly and carefully meditate upon:

[Romans 5:1-6](#)

[Romans 8:26-30](#)

[Philippians 4:4-9](#)

Reflect: Based on the promise found in [Romans 4:25](#) that Christ died for our sins and was raised that we may become righteous (Greek = "justified – that things are as they should be"), we operate with a faith ([Romans 5:1](#)) that puts our full weight down upon what God has done for us. We can then experience a peace that transcends all understanding ([Philippians 4:7](#)) (i.e. a level of peace that does not make sense). We learn from this revelation of scripture that God is actively at work within the context of **all** our circumstances ([Romans 8:28](#)). Moreover, the Holy Spirit partners with us in prayer and intercession ([Romans 8:26](#)) to accomplish God's agenda in us, which is the transformation of our character into the image of Christ ([Romans 5:4 // Romans 8:29](#)).

To actualize this into your present experience, **prayerfully do three things today:**

Step One: List here all your present circumstances, situations, and stress points that you would like to see God at work and to have supernatural levels of peace.

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Step Two: Ask God to reveal to you how each of these circumstances may be useful to the transformation of your character into the likeness (image, similarity) of Jesus. In other words, how might you become more like Jesus in character because of the pressure of these circumstances? What aspects of Jesus' character can you imagine developing within you as you persevere through these challenges?

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Step Three: Go back through those circumstances and verbally express to God your **thankfulness** for them (in accordance with [Philippians 4:6](#) "with thanksgiving"). Perhaps even consider a worship song that comes to mind and sing that over your circumstances.

Pray: *God, I give you thanks for each of my circumstances and situations—even the ones that I find hard, difficult, disappointing, or painful. I am grateful to you that you are able to work through each of these difficulties to produce good within me. I ask you to conform me—to reshape me—into a similar character to that of Jesus. While I do ask for your help, healing, and victory over my circumstances, I first and more importantly ask you to use them to make me more like Jesus. I surrender to your will and lay down before you any of my own expectations. I trust you. I put my full weight down upon your promises. Bring your will and your desires into my life through these challenges. In Jesus' name!*

(ALSO: Consider praying [Psalm 103](#) as your own prayer and worship to God!)

Notes: *What is God revealing to me today?*
