NOTES:

1. **Peace** with God (vs. 1)
   

2. **Access** to the Father (vs. 2)
   
   Matthew 27:50-51, Hebrews 10:19-20, Hebrews 4:14-16

3. **Security** (vs. 2)
   
   Romans 8:31-39

4. **Hope** (vs. 2)
   
   Romans 10:13

SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS:

REVIEW:

1. Last week we saw how God is faithful to provide all that He promises. In what ways did you see God come through for you during this last week?

THIS WEEK’S SERMON:

1. Romans 5:1 starts off with “Therefore.” Review 4:24-25 and observe how God is described. Why is it so important to base all that follows on this important “therefore”?

2. When have you been most at peace? What contributed to that peaceful state? What would peace look like for you at this moment? Do you think this is the kind of peace Paul has in mind in Romans 5:1? Why or why not?

3. How does John 4:27 shed light onto God’s kind of peace?
4. If we look ahead to Romans 5:10, we can understand why we need peace. Are we still at odds with God (or does he count us as an enemy)?

5. Another very important accomplishment that we enjoy is that access (direct and personal) has been provided by Christ. Describe what this kind of access means in practical terms. What can we do to nurture and utilize this access? What personal significance does this access have for you?

6. How does Hebrews 10:19-24 help us better understand and appreciate the access that we can enjoy with Christ?

7. We are called to “stand in grace.” (1 Peter 5:12 and 1 Cor. 15:1). Why is grace such a wonderful platform? How does it provide a sense of stability to all believers?

8. We are also exhorted to “rejoice in hope.” But this kind of hope isn’t just wishful thinking – hope is a settled confidence in all that God is, in everything that he has done, and in all that he has promised. Brainstorm specifics from each of these three areas. How do these provide an increased measure of hope?

9. This Christmas season, it’s important to remember the peace that Christ provides. Close your small group time reading/praying/praising through these additional passages of peace.
   • Isaiah 9:6-7
   • Ephesians 2:14, 17
   • Luke 2:13-14
   • Colossians 1:19-20