

WELCOME TO SOUTHEAST

Southeast provides relational environments where you can find **Jesus, community, and purpose**.

GET CONNECTED

Cod created us for community. If you are interested in serving, participating in a life group, or would like more information about an upcoming event, visit **southeastcc.org** or send an email to **connect@southeastcc.org**.

NEED PRAYER?

We are honored to pray with you or for you. Join us after services to pray with someone at **southeastcc.org**. You may also submit a prayer request at **southeastcc.org/prayer**.

ADVENT | A TALE OF TWO KINGDOMS | PEACE

NOTES | 12.18.22

Luke 2:8-20 New International Version (NIV)

And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."

Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying,

"Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests."

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about." So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told.

"Grace and peace to you..."

The Apostle Paul included this phrase in almost every one of his letters.

Romans 1:7 | ESV

To all those in Rome who are loved by God and called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

1 Corinthians 1:3 | ESV Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

2 Corinthians 1:2 | ESV Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Ephesians 1:2 | ESV

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Philippians 1:2 | ESV

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Colossians 1:2 | ESV

To the saints and faithful brothers in Christ at Colossae: Grace to you and peace from God our Father.

1 Thessalonians 1:1 | ESV

Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy,

To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace.

2 Thessalonians 1:1-2 | ESV

Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy,

To the church of the Thessalonians in God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

1 Timothy 1:2 | ESV

To Timothy, my true child in the faith: Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

2 Timothy 1:2 | ESV

To Timothy, my beloved child: Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

Philemon 1-3 | ESV

Paul, a prisoner for Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother,

To Philemon our beloved fellow worker and Apphia our sister and Archippus our fellow soldier, and the church in your house:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Week 1: HOPE

- Where do you look for your hope?
- Do you need a Savior this Christmas?

Week 2: LOVE

- Where does Jesus need to be born in your life this Christmas?
- What are the Bethlehems of your life?

Week 3: JOY

- Where do we search for permanent Joy?
- Are we going to the world for things that only God can provide?
- Do we delight in being with Jesus face to face?

Week 4: PEACE

- Is grace the biggest gift you need for Advent 2022?
- What brings true peace?

2 Corinthians 12:7-10 NIV

Therefore, in order to keep me from becoming conceited, I was given a thorn in my flesh, a messenger of Satan, to torment me. Three times I pleaded with the Lord to take it away from me. But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weak- ness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me. That is why, for Christ's sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

IMPLICATIONS

- 1. The world's version of peace only offers peace to those who are enough.
- 2. The Christmas story, and the entire Kingdom, is a defiant stand against temporary traps.
- 3. Peace comes when we come to terms with our own brokenness. Avoiding our dark places will only bring more anxiety.
- 4. GRACE. PEACE.





