

Our real Hope and Peace

2 messages

Todd & Sue Nelson <todd_nelson@ntm.org> Reply-To: Todd & Sue Nelson <todd_nelson@ntm.org> To: Ganson Street Baptist Church <church@gansonstreet.org> Tue, Dec 19, 2023 at 6:10 AM

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"Why are the nations in an uproar and the peoples devising a vain thing?" Psalm 2:1

When we look at our world, it is obvious that it has not changed since these inspired words were first penned. It is still true that the world can ONLY offer hopelessness to people that so desperately need hope. So much hate, war, death, sadness, worry, fear, and insecurity – things that we so easily focus on.

We must remember that there is real Hope and peace, and it is found ONLY in our Savior Jesus Christ, whose birth we remember this month. Jesus entered this fallen world to suffer and die on a cross – to redeem us. Jesus rose from the dead proving that in Him there is forgiveness of sin. For all who believe in Jesus, there is Hope, peace and security.

This Christmas and always, let's fix our minds on Jesus and tell everyone this Good News.

"You will keep in perfect peace him whose mind is steadfast, because he trusts in you. Trust in the Lord forever, for the Lord, the Lord, is the Rock eternal." Isaiah 26:3-4



Many of our ministry responsibilities at EBI continue including administrative, teaching the same classes, computer work, spreadsheets, and keeping track of data for budgets, accreditation, and parking lots. We want to share with you a sampling of "other" fun things we get to say "yes" to and are blessed by.

This fall we were invited to be part of a panel discussion for the class "Self and Social Identity." We were tasked with sharing from our own life experience and 42 years of marriage, some practical ways marriage impacts our identity in Christ. We had good conversations between the two of us, trying to remember what we used to be like and how the Lord brought us along in maturity. We look forward to follow-up conversations with students if they want to talk further.



EBI has a Pastor's Brunch every Fall which brings together local pastors to learn more about what EBI is about and to build a bridge between us and our community. We were table hosts again this year. It was enjoyable to meet the pastors, some of whom traveled from over an hour away.

The Online Education Department has occasional "Equip" sessions for students who are taking only online classes. We were asked to be part of a Questionand-Answer session on "Stateside Missionary Roles." It was fun getting the chance to share the many needs available within Ethnos360 Mission which do not require moving overseas.

Todd is thoroughly enjoying being on a committee of four men at our church forming the men's ministry. They had a kick-off breakfast this Fall and over 50 men came! Lots of great ideas were shared. These men are eager to connect with each other and grow in their knowledge of God's Word and in their relationship with Him.

A common thread running through this handful of some of the "extra" things we do is "relationships." Ministry is not so much about the tasks, even though there are real and necessary tasks to be





done, but of building friendships with the common bond of our love in Christ sharing Christ and growing in Him. We hope you will find quiet times in the busyness of the holidays to focus on the people around you and most of all Jesus.

Merry Christmas. With love and thankfulness for you, *Todd and Sue*



Why We Need Partners

2 Support Update



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