

# SEPTEMBER 2020

GOD OF PEACE:  
YAHWEH SHALOM

**“Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.” (John 14: 27)**

Shalom is a comprehensive Hebrew word for peace. Yahweh Shalom is more of a title than a name for God, it describes His ability to make us whole emotionally, spiritually, and physically. Shalom refers to a harmony we can have with ourselves, others and God. Shalom leaves us fulfilled, satisfied, prosperous, and healthy. Shalom is a covenant word, in other words a promise from God on how we can live our lives when we put Him first above all things and ask for his peace. When we seek Jesus, we find Shalom.

**A story from The Back Porch:** We love seeing parents feel empowered and be filled with Jesus' peace. After choosing to see her pregnancy through and parent her child, a woman told us, **“Now that I decided to parent my baby, I feel so much calmer, like a weight has been lifted off my shoulders.”** We firmly believe it was God who bestowed His peace on this woman when she made the brave choice to continue her unplanned pregnancy and bring her baby into the world. Pray that God continues to bless parents with courage, and His peace which not only surpasses all understanding but in any circumstance, as well.

### September is the month of PEACE

**“All of us, then, who are mature should take such a view of things. And if on some point you think differently, that too God will make clear to you” (Philippians 3: 15)**

When Paul wrote these words as he was encouraging his readers (us) to let go of the past and set their hearts on the future God has for them; to fully embrace who Jesus is and accept His strength in our weakness. We can then trust that as we come across resistance to choose life, God is working in the background. We can also be encouraged to keep offering loving words, acts of grace, and an attitude of mercy to every abortion-minded person we come across so that they leave the interaction with Jesus' light and love for them. This way, we can have peace in our hearts and minds that ultimately it is God who will make them see the value of His gift of life.

### In September, we are praying for THE START OF ANOTHER YEAR

**“Peacemakers who sow in peace reap a harvest of righteousness.” (James 3: 18)**

We must press on toward the goal of our heavenly prize, and we do that through relationship - developing a relationship with Jesus and with those around us. Let us pray for peaceful and fruitful relationships as the fall brings in change in its season. Let it be a time to reflect on what we need to let go and what we need to embrace in order to live a life of Shalom - God's peace and fullness in every area of our lives.

THANK-YOU FOR RESPONDING TO GOD'S CALL TO PRAYER.