



Peace At Last Ministries (PALM)

Sharing God's comfort with the terminally-ill, their loved ones and caregivers.

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Paul & Kathleen Humphreys

COMING SOON! – A new gospel tract from PALM

How can I know God is at peace with me?

Amazingly, five years have passed since we launched Peace At Last Ministries (PALM).

My role as hospice chaplain has been challenging but rewarding on many levels. Most gratifying are the dear patients and family members who have come to know and embrace God's peace—peace at last. And for all the right reasons.

This experience has led to the creation of a new gospel tract. The working title is in the form of a question; ***How can I know God is at peace with me?*** The tract evolved from my own firsthand encounters with individuals at the end of their lives who asked a similar question. Patients asked, "Chaplain, how can I make peace with God?"

People with a religious background can try all manner of things to make peace with their Creator, especially when the chips are down. These include prayers, sacraments, rituals, incantations, confessions, penance, promises, etc. But a nagging apprehension, if not outright fear lingers deep in their soul. Such trepidation is the result of a subjective focus on their own peace-making efforts. It leaves them uncertain, questioning whether they've done enough to satiate God's wrath.

Years ago, a Bible teacher and friend of mine cautioned about buying into people's questions too readily. He warned against being too hasty to jump in with our answers. This is because sometimes a person's question isn't really the *right* question. He explained how it can be helpful to rephrase a question in order to get to the real question—the crux of a matter. It has been sage advice. And it comes to mind when my patient's ask me how they can make peace with God.

I've responded, "I think what you really want to know is that **God** is at peace about you! Am I right?" This in turn led to a proposal, "It is only when we know that **God** is at peace about us, that we can be at peace. And so why don't we ask a different question? Let's ask, 'How can I know **God** is at peace about me?'" With a slight modification, this is the title of the new tract.



To date, not one patient has pushed back on my rephrased question. Indeed, many have expressed appreciation for the way it helped them to think. More importantly, after understanding the peace-making work of Jesus Christ and what it means to be justified by faith, many of these patients rejoiced in the knowledge God was truly at peace with them—peace at last! And for all the right reasons.

The new gospel tract from PALM clearly and concisely explains how a person is justified or declared righteous by God in response to believing or putting their faith in him. It lands solidly on Romans 5:1,

“...having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.”

We hope to have the new tract available later this summer. A significant team of individuals is currently providing input and guidance. God-willing, future translations are also planned. Meantime, please pray for wisdom and for God’s provision for this significant PALM project.

Another ministry development has unintentionally evolved from my metal-detecting hobby. The heartwarming stories of nearly 100 lost and found rings have captivated the attention of my patients, their families and caregivers, even the local news media. I’ve been called, *“The Sherlock Holmes of lost rings!”* 😊



Nursing Homes, Assisted Living Facilities, Senior Living Communities and similar venues have expressed interest in having ‘Sherlock’ come and share his experiences. In response, I have created a 1-hour interactive presentation under the banner, *The Lost Ring Detective – It’s more than a ring!*

Woven into the photo-rich PowerPoint presentation is my greatest discovery; you guessed it, peace with God! I am excited about having the new PALM gospel tract available at these venues. I feel like the apostle Paul of old, using whatever means I can,

...so that I may by all means save some. (1 Corinthians 9:22)

On a personal note, Kathleen and I continue to enjoy good health. When one has more history than future, the blessing of health is no small thing!

As always, we thank God for you, our dear friends and supporters. Please know we count you as laborers together with us. May God encourage you and refresh you daily in the awareness of his glorious grace and peace.



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