The Bible says — and we can see this ourselves — that we are all born with seeds of selfishness, suspicion, violence, hatred and destruction within us. The person who has not made peace with God is in constant turmoil and war. . . within and with others. We can only experience real peace when we have been forgiven by God and have made peace with Him.

Because God knows our nature and our inability to find peace on our own, He sent Jesus who, through His death on the cross, made peace with God for us. He became our peace. Jesus is the "Prince of Peace" (Isaiah 9:6). The Hebrew term here is "Sar Shalom", which has a much wider meaning than "peace" does. It does not only refer to the absence of war and strife, but it also includes prosperity, well-being, harmony within and without, peace in one's heart and peace with God. It is the perfect state of man.

God did His part to bring peace into this world and into the human heart and life. "For God so loved the world (you and me), that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." (John 3:16)

Now you must do your part. God wants you to have peace and joy. Do you have peace and joy? Or, like Jimi Hendrix, are you grasping for peace only to see it disappear like a mirage just when you think you have found it?

If you want peace and happiness, then you must ask for it from the "Prince of Peace" — Jesus Christ — who wants you to have lasting peace and life. You don't have to join a religious group or organization. You don't have to pay or work