

Sharing the good  
news of Jesus and  
His Kingdom and  
equipping the  
church to do the  
same.



Greg West, Evangelist

## Make this War to Cease: Reflections upon Ukraine

BY GREG WEST

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Friends, it is tragic that lives are being ended in Ukraine even now; Ukrainian lives and Russian lives, lives of children and babies, men and women . . . each one made in the image of God. A great evil is taking place. As followers of Jesus we are called to be peacemakers. Prayer, fasting, outreach, and being open to God's calling for us to do more are a few things we can do.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer knew the horrors of war firsthand, being part of the underground church in Germany opposing Hitler in World War 2. His story is pertinent in these times. He was a Christian and pastor who knew that evil had to be confronted and stopped. See the quote from him on the right. May it inspire us all!

May God cause evil to recoil on itself and "make this war to cease." May God empower Ukraine to be David in

their battle against the Goliath of Russia. May God raise up millions of Russians who stand against, and even stop, Putin.

*The world gangs up on the spirit of Christ. The demons rise-up. It is a rebellion against Christ. And one great power of this uprising is called war!"*

DIETRICH BONHOEFFER



*God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. The Lord Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress. Come and see what the Lord has done, the desolations he has brought on the earth. He makes wars cease to the ends of the earth. He breaks the bow and shatters the spear; he burns the shields with fire. He says, 'Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth.' The Lord Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.*

PSALM 46:1,7-11





## Update: Theology on Tap

We're 8 weeks into our Theology on Tap outreach! We've been meeting on Monday nights at Zino's restaurant in Chesapeake. We've covered some fascinating topics like:

- Did God create humans, or did humans create God?
- It seems like there is a design to the universe and to life, is that evidence for a Designer?
- What about all the hypocrites in the church?
- The God of the Old Testament seems mean and cruel, but the God of the New Testament seems kind and loving. What's going on!?
- Who is Jesus? Prophet, creator, teacher, fairytale, or Son of God?
- Why did Jesus die?

- Did Jesus really rise from the dead? What's the evidence?
- If God is good and all powerful, why is there so much evil in the world?

I believe these are questions that people of faith and without faith often wonder about. There is a great need to create respectful dialogue where all points of view are welcome. We break negative stereotypes that way and people open up. I always aim to set an atmosphere of grace and truth. The good news of Jesus draws people when it's presented clearly and with love.

We have some regulars that connect with us each week and others that are in and out. Ultimately, it's a joy to see people understand who Jesus is and what he has done at deeper levels.

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## Seedbed's Resources for Lent

*Lent Re-Orients Us to the Gospel*  
Winfield Bevins



*The Meaning of Lent*  
Dr. Michael Pasquarello

