

D1, D2, D3: Heart, Home, & Ministry – Peacemaking

INTRODUCTION:

Examples of conflict:

Gen 3-4; Gen 6:5; Mk 2:9-18; Lk 4:16-30; Jn 3:25-36, 4:4-26; Mk 9:33-35; Acts 15;
1 Cor 10:14-11:34; Jas 4:1-12; Php 4: 1-9

Commands to live at peace:

Mt 6:9-15; Mk 11:25; Rom 12:18; 2 Cor 5:17-21; 2 Cor 13:11; Eph 4: 3, 31-32; Col 3:12-14;
1 Thes 5:12-18; 2 Tim 2:22; 1 Pet 2:19-3:12; Mt 22:33-40

Definition of peacemaking:

Different Aspects of Peacemaking

When I am the offender:

Mt 5:23; 1 Jn 1:9

*7 A's of confession

1. Address everyone involved (All those whom I have affected)
2. Avoid if, but, and maybe (Do not try to excuse my wrongs)
3. Admit specifically (Both attitudes and actions)
4. Acknowledge the hurt (Express sorrow for hurting someone)
5. Accept the consequences (Such as making restitution)
6. Alter my behavior (Change my attitudes and actions)
7. Ask for forgiveness (Allow time)

When I have been offended:

Mt 18:12-35; Lk 17:3-5

**My attitude towards those who have sinned against me should be:

HUMBLE

Pr 19:11; Rom 12:3; Php 2:3

GENTLE

Gal 5:22-23; 1 Tim 6:11; 1 Pet 3:4

PATIENT

Rom 5:3; Col 1:11-12; Col 3:12-17

When someone else is offending:

Pr 19:11; Pr 27:6; Pr 28:23; Pr 31:26; Gal 6:1; Eph 4:15

*There are times that the other person's sins are too serious to overlook. *The Peacemaker* (by Ken Sande) gives some helpful suggestions for making that determination:

- Is it dishonoring God?
- Is it damaging your relationship?
- Is it hurting others?
- Is it hurting the offender?

*If I need to go:

Mt 7:3-5; Js 1:19

- Determine if I contributed to the problem and if I did, seek forgiveness first –it may mean waiting to address the other person's sin against me.
- Forgive the person in prayer before going—this will help to be ready to grant forgiveness.
- Go graciously and tentatively.
- Remember my attitude should be humble, gentle, and patient.

*If they agree and seek my forgiveness:

- I will forgive.
- I will not dwell on this incident.
- I will not bring up this incident again and use it against you (unless admonishment is needed).
- I will not talk to others about this incident (gossip).
- I will not allow this incident to stand between us or to hinder our personal relationship.

*What does my attitude and what should my actions be towards an unrepentant offender?
Lk 6:27-36; Eph 4:29

- Control my tongue and continue to say only what is helpful and beneficial to others.
- Seek counsel support and encouragement from spiritually mature advisors.
- Keep doing what is right no matter what others do to me.
- Recognize my limits by resisting the temptation to take revenge and by remembering that being successful in God's eyes depends on faithfulness, not results.
- Continue to love my enemy by striving to discern and address his or her needs.

*Mini course in handling conflict

Philippians 4:2-9

- Check your attitude and change it.
- Rejoice in the Lord always.
- Let your gentleness be evident to all.
- Replace anxiety with prayer.
- See things as they are.
- Practice what you've learned.

Recommended resources:

Exemplary Spiritual Leadership—Jerry Wragg

***Forgiveness*—John MacArthur

From Forgiven to Forgiving—Jay Adams

Opening Up Proverbs—Jim Newheiser

**The Peacemaker*—Ken Sande

War of Words—Paul David Tripp

When Sinners Say "I Do"—Dave Harvey

www.gbcaz.org

www.gracegems.org

www.peacemaker.net