

The Peacemaker

Week 6

THE
PEACE
MAKER

REVISED AND UPDATED

A BIBLICAL GUIDE TO
RESOLVING PERSONAL CONFLICT

KEN
SANDE

Four Principles of Biblical Peacemaking

4 Gs

G #1: Glorify God

G #2: Get the Log Out of Your Eye

G #3: Gently Restore

G #4: Go and Be Reconciled

G #4: Go and Be Reconciled

- How can I demonstrate the forgiveness of God and encourage a reasonable solution to this conflict?
- “First go and be reconciled to your brother; then come and offer your gift.” (Matthew 5:24)

Forgive as God Forgave You

- ¹³ bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. (Colossians 3:13)

What is Forgiveness?

1. Forgiveness is **NOT** a feeling.

-It is an act of the will. Forgiveness involves a series of decisions, the first of which is to call on God to change our hearts.

-As He gives us grace, we must then decide not to think or talk about what someone has done to hurt us.

What is Forgiveness?

2. Forgiveness is **NOT** forgetting.

- Forgetting is passive: a matter fades from memory with passing of time.

- Forgiving is active: involves a conscious choice and a deliberate course of action.

What is Forgiveness?

3. Forgiveness is **NOT** excusing

- Excusing= “That’s okay” implying “what you did wasn’t really bad.”
- Forgiveness is the opposite = “We both know what you did was wrong and inexcusable... BUT I forgive because God has forgiven me.”

What is Forgiveness?

4. Forgiveness **IS** a decision

- To forgive someone means to release him or her from liability to suffer punishment or penalty.

What is Forgiveness?

5. Forgiveness is costly.

- When someone sins they create a debt, and someone must pay it.
- If you are sinned against...
 1. You can **TAKE** payments
 2. You can **MAKE** payments

You can **TAKE** payments

- Withholding forgiveness
 - Dwelling on wrongs
 - Being cold and aloof
 - Giving up relationship
 - Inflicting emotional pain
 - Gossiping, lashing out, seeking revenge
-
- High price to you in the long run: “Unforgiveness is the poison we drink, hoping others will die.”

You can **MAKE** payments

- Through forgiveness God tears down the walls that our sins have built, and he opens the way for a renewed relationship with Him. This is exactly what we must do if we are to forgive as the Lord forgives us. We must release the person who has wronged us from the penalty of being separated from us.
- We must not hold wrongs against others, not think about the wrongs, and not punish others for them.

4 Promises of Forgiveness

1. I will not dwell on this incident.
2. I will not bring up this incident again and use it against you.
3. I will not talk to others about this incident.
4. I will not allow this incident to stand between us or to hinder our personal relationship.

***Why are each of these promises so important?**

***Which of these is the most difficult?**

4 Promises of Forgiveness

- “By making and keeping these promises, you can tear down the walls that stand between you and your offender. You promise not to dwell on or brood over the problem or to punish by holding the person at a distance. You clear the way for your relationship to develop unhindered by memories of past wrongs.”
- This is exactly what God does for us, and it is what he calls us to do for others.

Dealing with feelings of Unforgiveness:

- Renounce the desire to punish the other person, to make that person earn my forgiveness, or to demand guarantees that I will never be wronged again
- Assess my contributions to the problem
- Address any unresolved issues and to confirm repentance
- Recognize the ways that God is using the situation for good
- Remember how much God has forgiven me

Pursue Reconciliation by practicing the **Replacement Principle**:

- **In Thought:** Replacing painful thoughts and memories with positive thoughts and memories
- **In Word:** Saying positive things to and about the person whom I have forgiven
- **In Deed:** Doing loving and constructive things to and for the person whom I have forgiven

Negotiation and the **PAUSE Principle**

- **P**-repare thoroughly for our discussions
- **A**-ffirm my respect and concern for my opponent
- **U**-nderstand my opponent's interests
- **S**-earch for creative solutions that will satisfy as many of our interests as possible
- **E**-valuate various options objectively and reasonably

PAUSE Example: **Family Conflict**

- Scenario:

A father and his teenage daughter clash over her curfew time. He wants her home by 10pm; she insists on 11:30pm.

How the **PAUSE Principle** Applies:

- **Prepare:** The father thinks through his concerns (safety, respect) and the relationship's importance before the talk.
- **Affirm:** He starts by expressing his love and trust in her, not just his rules.
- **Understand:** He listens to her reasons- social pressure, wanting independence, not feeling trusted.
- **Search:** They explore options like extending curfew on weekends, using a check-in text, or starting with a trial period.
- **Evaluate:** They agree to a test month of 11pm curfew with regular communication.

PAUSE Example 2: **Roommate Conflict**

- Scenario:

Roommates have been arguing about housework. One roommate feels like the other expects too much of him, while the other roommate feels unsupported managing most of the chores.

How the **PAUSE Principle** Applies:

- **Prepare:** Both pray and reflect on their own attitudes before the conversation, asking God for humility and love.
- **Affirm:** Each starts by expressing appreciation for what the other does.
- **Understand:** They take time to listen to each other's daily burdens and needs
- **Search:** They brainstorm practical solutions- shared tasks, scheduling help, or rotating responsibilities
- **Evaluate:** They agree to try a new routine for a few weeks, then revisit how it's working.