

The Key to a Blessed Life

SESSION 5 – HOW TO RECONCILE A RELATIONSHIP

God blesses those who are peacemakers,
for they will be called the children of God
Matthew 5:9 (NLT)

MISCONCEPTIONS ABOUT PEACEMAKING

- Peacemaking is not avoiding
- Peacemaking is not appeasing

HOW TO BE A PEACEMAKER

1. MAKE THE FIRST MOVE.

THE ONLY WAY TO RESOLVE A CONFLICT IS TO FACE IT.

God has not given us a spirit of fear and timidity, but of power, love, and self-discipline.
2 Timothy 1:7 (NLT)

2. ASK GOD FOR WISDOM.

If you want to know what God wants you to do, ask him, and he will gladly tell you.
James 1:5 (TLB)

3. I BEGIN WITH WHAT'S MY FAULT.

THE CAUSES OF CONFLICT:

1. SELF-CENTEREDNESS

What causes fights and quarrels among you? They are caused by selfish desires that are continually at war inside you.
James 4:1

WHEN I'M AT PEACE INSIDE, WHAT'S OUTSIDE DOESN'T UPSET ME.

2. PRIDE

Pride only leads to arguments.
Proverbs 13:10 (NCV)

4. LISTEN FOR THEIR HURT AND PERSPECTIVE.

Be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to get angry.
James 1:19 (NLT)

ALWAYS LISTEN BEFORE SPEAKING.

Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others. Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus.
Philippians 2:4-5 (NIV)

Seek to understand before seeking to be understood.
- Old Proverb

We must be considerate of the doubts and fears of others...Let's please the other fellow, not ourselves, and do what is for his good and thus build him up in the Lord.
Romans 15:2 (TLB)

5. SPEAK THE TRUTH TACTFULLY.

Speak the truth in love.
Ephesians 4:15 (NLT)

Reckless words pierce like a sword, but the tongue of the wise brings healing.
Proverbs 12:18 (NIV)

Do not use harmful words, but only helpful words, the kind that build up and provide what is needed.
Ephesians 4:29 (GNT)

6. FIX THE PROBLEM, NOT THE BLAME.

You must also rid yourselves of all such things as these: anger, rage, malice, slander, and filthy language from your lips.
Colossians 3:8 (NIV)

7. FOCUS ON RECONCILIATION, NOT RESOLUTION.

RECONCILIATION: Reestablishing the relationship
RESOLUTION: Resolving every disagreement

[God] has restored our relationship with him through Christ, and has given us this ministry of restoring relationships... God was in Christ restoring his relationship with humanity. He didn't hold people's faults against them, and he has given us this message of restored relationships to tell others. We are Christ's representatives...We beg you on behalf of Christ to become reunited with God.
2 Corinthians 5:18-20 (GW)