RW360 Be a Peacemaker. Transform Your Relationships.™

# Relational Peacemaking™

## Going beyond conflict resolution

*"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God" (Matt. 5:9).*

1. **Conflict is a slippery slope.**
   - Peace-faking (Escape)
   - Peace-breaking (Attack)
   - Peacemaking




2. Going beyond conflict: the primary goal of peacemaking is to **reflect the reconciling power of Jesus and his gospel**.

3. Relational peacemaking is **three-dimensional**, which requires us to be constantly **God-aware**, **self-aware** and **other-aware** (Eph. 4:30-32).




4. Scripture provides a practical theology for peacemaking (the ***4Gs***).
   - **G**lorify God (1 Cor. 10:31)
   - **G**et the log out of your eye (Matt. 7:3)
   - **G**ently restore (Gal. 6:1)
   - **G**o and be reconciled (Matt. 5:24)
   - The **G**ospel, the foundational **G**, provides the model and motivation for peacemaking.

5. **Glorify God** by using conflict as **an opportunity** to reflect his reconciling power and love.

   *So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God (1 Cor. 10:31; Ex. 34:5-8).*

6. **Get the Log Out of Your Eye**

   *"You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your brother's eye" (Matt. 7:3; cf. Prov. 28:13).*

   a. Conflict starts in the heart - The progression of an idol: I desire, I demand, I judge, I punish.

   *"What causes quarrels and what causes fights among you? Is it not this, that your passions are at war within you?" (James 4:1)*

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Confession brings freedom: **The Seven A's of Confession**

*"Whoever conceals his transgressions will not prosper, but he who confesses and forsakes them will obtain mercy" (Prov. 28:13).*

**A**ddress everyone involved
**A**void if, but, and maybe
**A**dmit specifically (behavior and desire)
**A**cknowledge the hurt
**A**ccept the consequences
**A**lter your behavior
**A**sk for forgiveness (and **A**llow time)

7. **Gently Restore**

*Brothers, if anyone is caught in any transgression, you who are spiritual should restore him in a spirit of gentleness (Gal. 6:1).*

- Overlook minor offenses (Prov. 19:11; 1 Pet. 4:8)
- Breathe grace and hope through the gospel (John 4:7-26; 1 Cor. 1:2-9; Col. 3:12)
- Keep it as private as possible but involve others if needed (Matt. 18:15-17; 1 Cor. 6:1-8).

8. **Go and be Reconciled**

*a.* Forgive as you've been forgiven: **The Four Promises of Forgiveness**

*Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you (Eph. 4:32; cf. Matt. 18:21-35; 1 Cor. 13:5).*

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

b. Interest-based negotiation: **The PAUSE principle**

*Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others (Phil. 2:3-4; 1 Sam. 25).*

- **P**repare (pray, get the facts, seek godly counsel, develop options)
- **A**ffirm relationships (show genuine concern and respect for others)
- **U**nderstand interests (identify concerns, desires, needs, limitations or fears)
- **S**earch for creative solutions (prayerful brainstorming)
- **E**valuate options objectively and reasonably (evaluate, don't argue)

***Action Steps*** *(download pdf with live url links at rw360.org/rp-handout)*

- Read the real-life stories at 8 Church Nightmares and Christian Conciliation Service
- Download and read the free 70-page Guiding People Through Conflict ebooklet
- Transform your church with Relational Wisdom and Relational Peacemaking training
- Pursue Advanced Training as an RW Shepherd, Instructor, Coach or Conciliator
- Access the Peacemaking and Abuse handout