



#7 "The Peacemakers"

*"When it comes to peacemaking, the question is not, "Are You Relieving Tension?"
The question is: "Are You Holding The Right Tension?"*

- Peace Is Disrupted When RELATIONSHIPS Become Unhinged & RIGHTS Become Infringed

Two Common Reactions to Conflict

1. The WARRIOR Tends to Lean Into RIGHTS
 - The Warrior DEMANDS Peace
2. The AVOIDER Tends to Lean Into RELATIONSHIPS
 - The Avoider DEFERS Peace

"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God." Matthew 5:9

What Does It Mean To Be a Peacemaker?

Peacemaker = Greek = εἰρηνοποιός
Peace = Hebrew = שָׁלוֹם [Shalom] - Hebrew Root = שָׁלַם [Shalam]
To Make Full,/Complete/To Restore Something That Was Broken or Missing.

*"Peacemaking is not just the absence of conflict; it's the presence
of human flourishing found in God Himself"*

- Peacemaking Is Not Just The RESOLUTION Of Conflict, It's The Ushering In Of RECONCILIATION

A Case Study In Peacemaking

"The Jews from Asia, seeing him in the temple, stirred up the whole crowd and laid hands on him, ²⁸crying out, "Men of Israel, help! This is the man who is teaching everyone everywhere against the people, the law, and this place." Acts 21:27-28.

The Mindset Of The Peacemaker

"For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain." Philippians 1:20–21

#1. Peacemakers Go FIRST

- Plan Your FEAR
- Pray For WISDOM

#2. Peacemakers Fight FAIR

- No THREATS
- No MANIPULATION
- No Name-Calling

#3. Peacemakers Keep FOCUS

"We focus on winning the person, not winning the argument."

Life Group Questions

Read Matthew 5:9

- Of the two common reactions to conflict, Warrior or Avoider, which one do you gravitate toward most? Why do you think that is?
- The biblical concept of peace is *shalom*, which means wholeness, completeness, and flourishing—not just the absence of conflict.
- Where in your immediate community or workplace do you notice a distinct absence of *shalom*? What would it look like to practically introduce it there?
- Jesus promises that peacemakers will be called "sons of God" because they reflect His character. How does the act of making peace display a "family resemblance" to our Heavenly Father?

Read Matthew 10:34

- Jesus famously stated that He did not come to bring peace, but a sword. How can we balance our calling to be peacemakers with the reality that standing up for truth will naturally cause friction and division?
- Can you share a time when you had to take the first step to resolve a conflict or mend a broken relationship? What challenges did you face, and what did you learn about yourself or God in the process?
- How does fighting fair help make peace?

Read 2 Corinthians 5:17–21.

- What does the ministry of reconciliation look like in your life?
- How can we cultivate an environment of peacemaking within our own church or small group when disagreements on secondary matters inevitably arise?

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