

BLESSED ARE THE PEACEMAKERS

Leadership in Resolving Conflict



Louis Bertram

WHAT COMES TO MIND WHEN YOU THINK ABOUT A PEACEMAKER?



Louis Bertram



THE GOSPEL

JESUS HAS RESOLVED THE BIGGEST CONFLICT THE WORLD HAS EVER KNOWN

Romans 5:1 Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ:

- This conflict was resolved through the exercise of God's love, grace, mercy, and sacrifice.

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OUR ABILITY TO RESOLVE CONFLICT IS THE DIFFERENCE IN LIFE OR DEATH



Leslie Becken



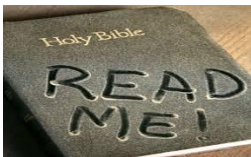
RESOLVING CONFLICT DOESN'T COME NATURAL TO ANYONE

- Resolving conflict is a skill or set of skills that must be learned.

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THE BIBLE IS COMPLETELY SUFFICIENT TO TEACH THE SKILLS NEEDED IN RESOLVING CONFLICT



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WE MUST EMBRACE A 2 CORINTHIANS 5:9 ATTITUDE

“we make it our aim to please him”

- Just two choices on the shelf, pleasing God, or pleasing self

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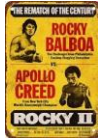


EVERYONE EXPERIENCES CONFLICT

- Luke 17:1a - "It is impossible but that offenses will come..."



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WHAT IS CONFLICT?

- Conflict happens when you are at odds with another person over what you think, want, or do.

Sande, Ken; Johnson, Kevin (2011-05-01). Resolving Everyday Conflict (Kindle Locations 118-119). Baker Publishing Group. Kindle Edition.

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THERE ARE TWO TYPES OF CONFLICT

- 1. Preference Issues
- 2. Sin Issues

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PREFERENCE ISSUE



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SIN ISSUE

- Confrontation
- Confession
- Repentance
- Forgiveness
- Reconciliation



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THE ROOT OF CONFLICT

A heart and mind that thinks – “I deserve to have things my way”

▪ James 3:13-16



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THE ANATOMY OF CONFLICT

When I'm willing to sin in order to get what I want, or sin because I didn't get what I wanted.

▪ James 4:1-6



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THE GOALS OF A PEACEMAKER

▪ 2 Corinthians 5:9

▪ Eph. 4:32 – Forgive the way God has forgiven you

▪ 2 Corinthians 5:17-21 – Forgiveness has the goal of reconciliation

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ATTITUDES OF A PEACEMAKER

▪ Ephesians 4:1-3

- Humility
- Gentleness
- Patience
- Tolerance
- Love
- Willingness to work long and hard for unity and peace

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ACTIONS OF A PEACEMAKER

▪ Ephesians 4:25-31

- Be Honest
- Solve today's problems today
- Attack problems, not people
- Act, don't react

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COMMON HINDRANCES OR CHALLENGES



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1. I'M JUST NOT GOOD AT CONFRONTATION OR CONFLICT RESOLUTION.

Proverbs 16:20 He that handleth a matter wisely shall find good: and whoso trusteth in the LORD, happy *is* he.

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I'VE EVEN PRAYED FOR WISDOM IN THIS AREA OFTEN?

Proverbs 28:9 He that turneth away his ear from hearing the law, even his prayer *shall be* abomination.

"Why should what **we** have to say to God (prayer) be deemed more important than what **He** has to say to us?" Jay E. Adams

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WHO SHOULD MAKE THE FIRST MOVE?

▪ Initiating conflict resolution can be difficult, but it must be done.

- Mt 5:23-24
- Luke 17:3



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2. I NEVER REALLY KNOW WHERE TO BEGIN OR WHAT TO SAY.

Proverbs 16:23 The heart of the wise teacheth his mouth, and addeth learning to his lips.

Proverbs 15:28 The heart of the righteous studieth to answer: but the mouth of the wicked poureth out evil things.



Kevin Searan



3. DON'T ASK ME WHY, BUT SOME HOW, THINGS ALWAYS END UP IN AN ANGRY ARGUMENT.

Proverbs 17:14 The beginning of strife *is* as when one letteth out water: therefore leave off contention, before it be meddled with.



Kevin Searan



CHECK YOUR GOAL

Are you just trying to get the other party to see things from your perspective?

Proverbs 13:10 Only by pride cometh contention: but with the well advised *is* wisdom.

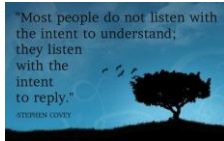


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ARE YOU LISTENING

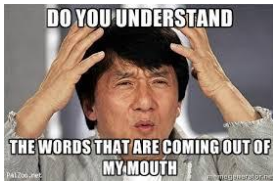
Proverbs 18:13 He that answereth a matter before he heareth it, it is folly and shame unto him.



Leslie Beaman



ARE WE SPEAKING THE SAME LANGUAGE?



Leslie Beaman



ARE WE SPEAKING THE SAME LANGUAGE?

Amos 3:3 Can two walk together, except they be agreed?

- Define your terms, and make sure everyone can agree on what they mean.
- A good way to figure out if everyone is on the same page, is to try and summarize what the other person has just said.
- Example
 - "So what you're saying is..."
 - "Let me make sure I understand what you're saying, ..."

Leslie Beaman



ARE MY VOLUME AND TONE PEACEABLE?

Proverbs 15:1 A soft answer turneth away wrath: but grievous words stir up anger.



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AM I CLAMMING UP OR PLAYING QUIET MOUSE?

• We are commanded to speak in the Scriptures.

Ephesians 4:15 But **speaking** the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, *even* Christ:

Ephesians 4:25 Wherefore putting away lying, **speak** every man truth with his neighbour: for we are members one of another.

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AM I SAYING TOO MUCH?

Proverbs 17:27 He that hath knowledge spareth his words: *and* a man of understanding is of an excellent spirit.

Proverbs 29:11 A fool uttereth all his mind: but a wise *man* keepeth it in till afterwards.

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DO I NEED TO EXERCISE SELF-CONTROL?

Proverbs 29:20 Seest thou a man *that is* hasty in his words? *there is* more hope of a fool than of him.

Proverbs 12:18 There is that speaketh like the piercings of a sword: but the tongue of the wise *is* health.



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AM I WILLING TO EXTEND AND EXPRESS FORGIVENESS?

Luke 17:3-4 Take heed to yourselves: If thy brother trespass against thee, rebuke him; and if he repent, forgive him. And if he trespass against thee seven times in a day, and seven times in a day turn again to thee, saying, I repent; thou shalt forgive him.



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AM I WILLING TO CONFESS MY SIN AND ASK FOR FORGIVENESS?

Matthew 5:23-24 Therefore if thou bring thy gift to the altar, and there rememberest that thy brother hath ought against thee; Leave there thy gift before the altar, and go thy way; first be reconciled to thy brother, and then come and offer thy gift.



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AM I WILLING TO PATIENTLY AND HUMBLLY WORK TO RESTORE THE RELATIONSHIP?

Proverbs 18:19 A brother offended is *harder to be won* than a strong city: and *their contentions are like the bars of a castle.*

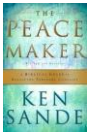
- You can't demand instant forgiveness and restoration, you can only work toward it.



Louis Bacon



RECOMMENDED RESOURCES



Louis Bacon

