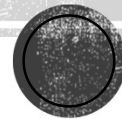


PEACEMAKING AND PRESUPPOSITIONS

Resolving Conflict in the Run of the Life with Gospel Wisdom



1

REVIEW AND “THE SPARK”

- **Conflict: The Spark**
- Diversity collides
- Communication breakdown
- Provocation
- “triggers”



2

DIFFERENT, UNHEALTHY APPROACHES TO CONFLICT-RESOLUTION

Attack and Counter-Attack Responses (Fight)

- Responsibility-shifting
- Assault
 - Using verbal or physical force and intimidation to make others give-in
 - Intellectual
 - Abusive language
 - Relational punishment/social threats
- Passive-Aggression



3

DIFFERENT, UNHEALTHY APPROACHES TO CONFLICT-RESOLUTION

Escape Responses (Flight)

- Deny the conflict
- Deny your role in resolution
- Acknowledge the presence of a conflict but ignore it
- Relationally bail



4

A BETTER WAY—OUR FOURFOLD TEMPLATE

- Reset perspective and priorities (1 Cor. 10:31; 2 Cor. 4:16-18)
- Start with yourself (Prov. 29:11; Matt. 7:1-5; 1 Tim. 1:15)
- Thoughtfully engage (Prov. 15:23; 25:11; 27:6; Jas. 1:19; Gal. 6:1)
- Depending on the conflict, plan for the future (Prov. 26:11)

5

OVERLOOKING AN OFFENSE: THE PRE-RECONCILIATION QUESTION

- Pray for wisdom
- Ask Three Questions
 - Will this offense create a wall me and this person moving forward or cause me to feel differently toward them or think about them negatively for more than a very short period of time?
 - Will this offense cause serious harm (if not to me, to the name of Christ, to others or the other offender themselves)?
 - Is this offense a one-off occurrence or a destructive pattern?
- Ask wise counselors while being mindful to not gossip.

6