

50 Days to a Blessed Life
How to Be a Peacemaker

I. Introduction

- A. Matthew 5:9 (NAS) *“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.”*
1. Peacemaker - - “someone who actively seeks to resolve conflict with other people.”

II. Misconceptions About Peacemaking

- A. Peacemaking is not avoidance.
B. Peacemaking is not just giving in to the other person.

III. Why Should I Be a Peacemaker?

- A. Because unresolved conflict blocks my fellowship with God.
1. I John 4:20-21 (NLT) ²⁰*If someone says, “I love God,” but hates a Christian brother or sister, that person is a liar; for if we don’t love people we can see, how can we love God, whom we cannot see?* ²¹*And he has given us this command: Those who love God must also love their Christian brothers and sisters.*
- B. Because if I’m not a peacemaker, it keeps my prayers from being answered.
1. I Peter 3:7 (NLT) *In the same way, you husbands must give honor to your wives. Treat your wife with understanding as you live together. She may be weaker than you are, but she is your equal partner in God’s gift of new life. Treat her as you should so your prayers will not be hindered.*
2. Matthew 5:23-24 (NAS) ²³*“Therefore if you are presenting your offering at the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you, ²⁴leave your offering there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother, and then come and present your offering.”*

IV. How to Be a Peacemaker

- A. You take the initiative to make peace!
1. Matthew 5:24 (NAS) *“Leave your offering there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother, and then come and present your offering.”*
2. Conflict is never resolved accidentally!
3. The longer I wait to resolve a conflict, the more difficult it’s going to be to resolve it.
- B. Look at the situation from the other person’s point of view.
1. Philippians 2:4 (NAS) *Do not merely look out for your own personal interests, but also for the interests of others.*
2. Focus on their needs and not my own needs.
- C. Attack the problem, not the person.
1. Proverbs 15:1 (NAS) *A gentle answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger.*
2. Ephesians 4:29 (NAS) *Let no unwholesome word proceed from your mouth, but only such a word as is good for edification according to the need of the moment, so that it will give grace to those who hear.*
- D. Go with a spirit of compromise.
1. John 13:35 (NAS) *“By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.”*
2. Romans 12:18 (NAS) *If possible, so far as it depends on you, be at peace with all men.*
3. Peace always has a price!
- E. Work on reconciliation, not resolving every issue.
1. Reconcile - - “to reestablish the relationship”
2. You can disagree agreeably!
3. Matthew 5:9 (NAS) *“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.”*

V. The Prerequisite to Being a Real Peacemaker

- A. You have to have peace on the inside!
1. Romans 5:1 (NAS) *Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.*

2. Jesus is the “Prince of Peace.”
3. Colossians 3:15 (NAS) *Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body; and be thankful.*
 - a. Rule - - “to umpire”
4. True peace with God is not just a truce between you and Him!

VI. “What Do You Want to Be Remembered For?”

- A. “Lord, make me an instrument of Thy peace.” (St. Francis of Assisi)
- B. Every time you tell somebody about Jesus, you’re being a peacemaker!

VII. “Who Do I Need to Make Peace With?”

VIII. Conclusion