

RESPONDING TO  
CONFLICT  
IN A BIBLICAL WAY

# WHAT IS CONFLICT?

- ❑ To come into collision or disagreement; be contradictory, at variance, or in opposition; clash:
- ❑ A fight, battle, or struggle, especially a prolonged struggle; strife.
- ❑ Controversy; quarrel:
- ❑ A difference in opinion or purpose that frustrates someone's goals or desires.  
(The Peacemaker, page 29)

# WHAT ARE THE PRIMARY CAUSES OF CONFLICT?

- ❑ Misunderstanding resulting from poor communication. (Joshua 22:10-34)
- ❑ Differences in values, goals, gifts, calling, priorities, interests or opinions (Acts 15:39; 1 Cor. 12:12-31)
- ❑ Competition over limited resources, such as time or money (Genesis 13:1-12)
- ❑ Sinful attitudes and habits that lead to sinful words and actions (James 4:1-3)

# WHAT ARE THE POSSIBLE RESPONSES TO CONFLICT?

Escape

Attack

Seek Peace

# WHAT IS PEACE?

- ❑ A lack of conflict
- ❑ The cessation of hostilities
- ❑ A prosperous relationship

# WHY SEEK PEACE?

□ God commands it

“Depart from evil and do good; seek peace and pursue it.”  
Psalm 34:14



# WHY SEEK PEACE?

□ God commands it

"If possible, so far as it depends on you, be at peace with all men"  
Romans 12:18

# WHY SEEK PEACE?

☐ God commands it

“Pursue peace with all men, and the sanctification without which no one will see the Lord.” Hebrews 12:14



# HOW DO WE SEEK PEACE?

## RECONCILIATION

- ❑ The process of restoring peace in the midst of conflict.
- ❑ The restoration of a relationship.
- ❑ The change from enmity to friendship.

# THE 4 G'S OF PEACEMAKING

Glorify God

Get the log out of your own eye

Gently restore

Go and be reconciled

# THE 4 G'S OF PEACEMAKING

## □ Glorify God

“Whether, then, you eat or drink or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.” 1 Corinthians 10:31

How can I please and honor the Lord in this situation?

# THE 4 G'S OF PEACEMAKING

□ Get the log out of your own eye

"Or how can you say to your brother, 'let me take the speck out of your eye,' and behold, the log is in your own 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." Matthew 7:4-5

How have I contributed to this conflict and what do I need to do?

# THE 4 G'S OF PEACEMAKING

## □ Gently restore

"And if your brother sins, go and reprove him in private; if he listens to you, you have won your brother."  
**Matthew 18:15**

How can I help others to understand how they have contributed to this conflict?

# THE 4 G'S OF PEACEMAKING

## □ Gently restore

“Brethren, even if anyone is caught in any trespass, you who are spiritual, restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness; each one looking to yourself, so that you too will not be tempted.”

Galatians 6:1



# THE 4 G'S OF PEACEMAKING

## □ Go and be reconciled

"If therefore you are presenting your offering at the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your offering there before the altar, and go your way; first be reconciled to your brother, and then come and present your offering."

**Matthew 5:23-24**

How can I demonstrate forgiveness and encourage a reasonable solution to this conflict?

# HOW CAN I HAVE PEACE WITH GOD?

"Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom also we have obtained our introduction by faith into this grace in which we stand; and we exult in hope of the glory of God."

Romans 5:1-2

Do I need to make peace with God today?

# HOW CAN I HAVE PEACE WITH GOD?

"But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from the wrath of God through Him. For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life."

**Romans 5:8-10**

# HOW CAN I HAVE PEACE WITH GOD?

“For it was the Father's good pleasure for all the fullness to dwell in Him, and through Him to reconcile all things to Himself, having made peace through the blood of His cross; through Him, I say, whether things on earth or things in heaven.”

**Colossians 1:19-20**