

PEACEMAKING PART 3

Promote Peace by Confronting Sin Biblically

A. Be willing to receive correction from others. *Prov 15:31*

1. Pride destroys peacemaking.

B. Love sometimes requires you to go and show your brother his fault. *Rom 15:14; Lev 19:17*

Which sins must you confront?

1. Notorious sins which could damage the Lord's reputation. *1 Cor 5:1,11*

2. Sins which endanger the purity and unity of the church. *Rom 16:17-18; 1 Cor 5:6-7; 15:33*

3. Sins which could ruin the offender. *Jas 5:19-20; Gal 6:1*

4. Sins which could affect your relationship with this person. *Matt 18:15; Eph 4:26-27*

C. First, practice personal peacemaking. *Matt 18:15; 5:23-24*

1. Go to the individual first before involving others.

2. Go gently, lovingly, and humbly for the purpose of restoration. *Gal 6:1-2*

3. If he repents, rejoice and forgive. *Matt 18:21-22; Jas 5:19-20; Prov 11:30*

D. Then, if necessary, seek help in making peace (assisted peacemaking). *Matt 18:16*

1. Others can bear witness and join in admonishing the sinner to repent. *Deut 19:15*

2. If you can't resolve a conflict on your own, seek godly counsel to help you.

3. Sometimes mediation or binding arbitration may be appropriate. *1 Cor 6:5*

E. Finally, if necessary, take it to the church. *Matt 18:17a*

1. The leaders of the church will determine the validity of the charges and the means of dealing with the matter publicly.

2. The other members join in to plead with the sinner to repent. *2 Thess 3:14-15*

F. If he refuses to listen to the church, he is to be put out of the assembly. *Matt 18:17b-20; 1 Cor 5:4-5, 13b; 1 Tim 1:19-20; Ps 1:6*

2. He is to be regarded as an unbeliever and an outsider. *Matt 18:17b*

3. Church discipline takes place with the authority of the Lord. *Matt 18:18-20*

4. What is the purpose of church discipline? *1 Cor 5:5-7; 15:33; Deut 13:11; 2 Cor 2:6-8*

5. Biblical peacemaking requires a biblical church structure. *Heb. 13:17*
 - Membership in a local church is a concept taught in the New Testament.

 - Membership is necessary for accountability to a particular set of leaders.

 - Membership provides many benefits.

 - Leaders of local churches need to faithfully shepherd the sheep.

 - Local churches need to be willing to work together when it comes to discipline.

6. Authority relationships do not negate the responsibility to confront sin.
 - Husband/wife

 - Employer/employee

Questions

- A. Does this approach to confronting sin violate confidentiality or one's right to privacy? *1 Tim 1:19-20; Prov 29:25; Eph 5:11*
- B. Do these peacemaking techniques ever fail? *Prov 3:5-6*
- C. How can these principles be applied with unbelievers?
- D. Is there ever a time when it is appropriate for Christians to go to court?

Conclusion

- A. Before you can make peace with men, you must have peace with God. *Rom 5:1,10; 8:6; Isa 9:6; 57:21; Luke 1:79; 2:14; 19:38; Eph 2:14,17; John 17:20-21; 2 Cor 5:18-20*