

Peacemakers Checklist

Whenever you are involved in a conflict, you may apply the four basic principles of peacemaking by asking yourself these questions:

Glorify God

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

Get the log out of your eye

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

Go and show your brother his fault

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

Go and be reconciled

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

The following checklist summarizing the principles presented in this book is designed to help you answer these four questions.

Glorify God

With God's help, I will seek to glorify him by:

- Striving earnestly, diligently, and continually to live at peace with those around me.
- Remembering that Jesus' reputation is affected by the way I get along with others.
- Guarding against Satan's schemes and false teachings, which are designed to promote selfishness and incite conflict.
- Trusting that God is in control and working for my good and the good of others, even when I must undergo suffering.
- Giving God praise and thanks for his goodness and his help.
- Obeying God's commands, even when doing so is difficult and requires sacrifice.
- Using conflict as an opportunity to serve others by: helping them find godly solutions to their problems; helping to bear their emotional, spiritual, or material burdens; helping them to see where they have been wrong and need to change; encouraging them to put their faith in the Lord Jesus Christ; and teaching and encouraging them by my example.
- Cooperating with God as he prunes me of sinful attitudes and habits, and helps me to grow to be more like Christ.
- Seeing my self as a steward and managing myself, my resource, and by situation in such a way that god would say, "Well done, good and faithful servant!"

Get the Log out of Your Eye

To decide whether something is really worth fighting over, with God's help I will:

- Define the issues (personal and material), decide how they are related, and deal only with issues that are too important to be overlooked, beginning usually with personal issues.
- Overlook minor offenses.
- Change my attitude by: recalling how much God has forgiven me; being gentle toward others; replacing anxiety with prayer and trust; deliberately thinking about what is good and right in others; putting into practice what god has taught me through the Bible.

- Carefully consider how much it will cost (emotionally, spiritually, and financially) to continue a conflict instead of simply settling it.
- Use my rights only to advance God's kingdom, to serve others, and to enhance my ability to serve and grow to be like Christ.

Before talking to others about their wrongs, with God's help I will ask myself:

- Am I guilty of reckless words, falsehood, gossip, slander, or any other worthless talk?
- Have I kept my word and fulfilled all of my responsibilities?
- Have I abused my authority?
- Have I respected those in authority over me?
- Have I treated others as I would want to be treated?
- Am I being motivated by: lusts of the flesh, pride, love of money, fear of others, or wanting good things too much?

When I see that I have sinned, with God's help I will:

- Repent-that is, change the way I have been thinking so that I turn away from my sin and turn toward God.
- Confess my sins by using the Seven A's, namely: addressing everyone I have affected; avoiding *if*, *but*, and *maybe*; admitting specifically what I did wrong; apologizing for hurting others; accepting the consequences of my actions; explaining how I will alter my attitudes and behavior in the future; and asking for forgiveness.
- Change my attitudes and behavior by : praying for God's help; focusing on the Lord so that I can overcome my personal idols; studying the Bible; and practicing godly character qualities in a manner that is both planned and spontaneous.

Go and Show Your Brother His Fault