

Responding to Conflict Biblically

**PEACEMAKING PRINCIPLES
FOR EVERYDAY LIFE**

A Resource of Peacemaker® Ministries



THE PEACEMAKING
CHURCH



PEACEMAKER
MINISTRIES

What Is Conflict?

A difference in opinion or purpose that frustrates someone's goals or desires.



THE PEACEMAKING
CHURCH



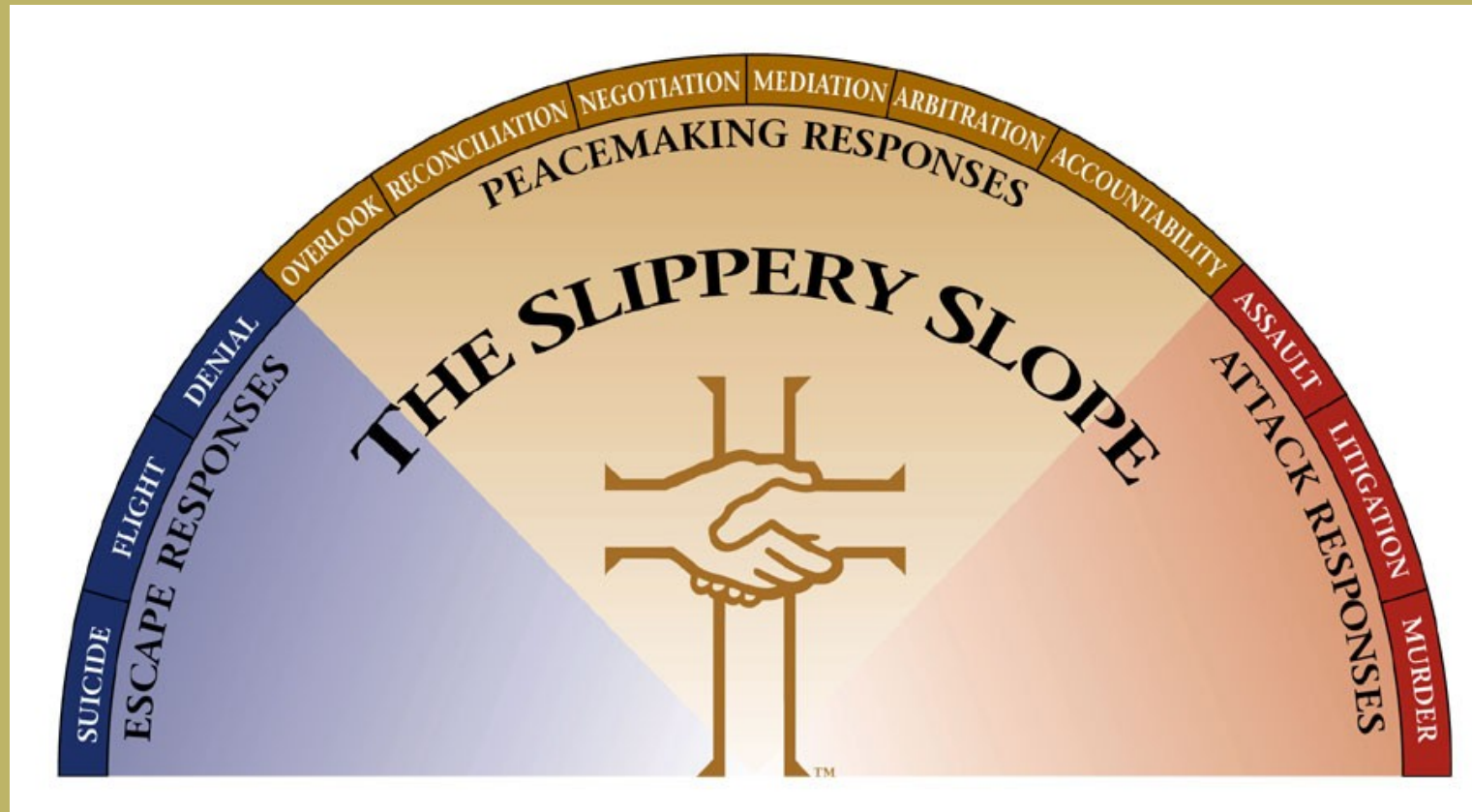
PEACEMAKER
MINISTRIES

Causes of Conflict...

- Misunderstandings
- Differences in values, goals ...
- Competition over resources
- Sinful attitudes and desires
- Stress caused by change



Responses to Conflict



THE PEACEMAKING
CHURCH



PEACEMAKER
MINISTRIES

Understanding Conflict and Our Responses to It

- *Escape Responses*
- *Attack Responses*
- *Peacemaking Responses*



The Biblical Pattern for Resolving Conflict

Glorify God

Get the log out of your eye

Gently restore

Go and be reconciled



THE PEACEMAKING
CHURCH



PEACEMAKER
MINISTRIES

The First G:
Glorify God

**Imitate His grace toward
us**

Bring honor to His name

Obey His commands

Trust God



THE PEACEMAKING
CHURCH

Peacemaking is NOT Optional

- **Peace with God, others, & self**
- **Peacemaking is crucial to our testimony**
- **We must work hard at peacemaking**



THE PEACEMAKING
CHURCH



PEACEMAKER
MINISTRIES

The Second G:
**Get the Log out of
Your Eye**

**Examine my attitude, then
evaluate my shortcomings
and responsibilities**



THE PEACEMAKING
CHURCH

Two Kinds of Logs...

- A critical, negative attitude
- Actual sinful words and actions



THE PEACEMAKING
CHURCH



PEACEMAKER
MINISTRIES

The Seven A's of Confession

- Address everyone involved
- Avoid if, but, and maybe
- Admit specifically
- Acknowledge the hurt
- Accept the consequences
- Alter your behavior
- Ask for forgiveness (allow time)



THE PEACEMAKING
CHURCH



PEACEMAKER
MINISTRIES

The Third G:
Gently Restore

**Gently correct and
restore a fellow
believer.**



THE PEACEMAKING
CHURCH

When Should You Go and Talk to Someone?

- *When a relationship is damaged*
- *When the offense is too serious to overlook*



THE PEACEMAKING
CHURCH

OVERLOOKING

- **Does the offense seriously dishonor God?**
- **Does the offense permanently damage a relationship?**
- **Does the offense seriously hurt others?**
- **Does the offense seriously hurt the offender?**



Loving Correction

- **Help someone solve a problem**
- **Identify and lift a burden**
- **See own negative contribution to the problem and make a change**
- **Be a positive example to others**



THE PEACEMAKING
CHURCH



PEACEMAKER
MINISTRIES

The Fourth G:
**Go and Be
Reconciled**

**Replace hostility and
separation with peace
and reconciliation**



THE PEACEMAKING
CHURCH

Forgive as God Forgave You

- How do we develop a spirit of forgiveness?
- Forgiveness is a decision involving four promises...



THE PEACEMAKING
CHURCH



PEACEMAKER
MINISTRIES

Four Promises of Forgiveness

- I will not dwell on this incident
- I will not bring this incident up and use it against you
- I will not talk to others about this incident
- I will not allow this incident to stand between us or hinder our personal relationship



THE PEACEMAKING
CHURCH



PEACEMAKER
MINISTRIES

Forgiveness Is Not...

- A sentimental concept
- A feeling
- Forgetting
- Excusing
- A temporary pardon



Philippians 4:4-9 Tells Us To:

- Rejoice in the Lord always
- Let your gentleness be evident
- Replace anxiety with prayer
- See things as they really are
- Practice what you've learned



THE PEACEMAKING
CHURCH



PEACEMAKER
MINISTRIES

**“Blessed are the
peacemakers, for they
will be called sons of
God.”**

Matthew 5:9



THE PEACEMAKING
CHURCH



PEACEMAKER
MINISTRIES