

CAN'T WE ALL JUST
GET ALONG?



“Be a Peacemaker”

MATTHEW 5:9

- I. Introduction to the Series
- II. Who God Is as a Reconciler
- III. Who We Are In Conflict
 - A. What Is the Cause of Conflict?
 - B. What Should Motivate Us to Resolve Conflict?
- IV. How We Must Respond – 5 Ways
 - A. Disarm Your Anger
 - B. Be a Peacemaker**
 - C. Be Forgiving
 - D. Manage the Criticism
 - E. Learn the Righteous Way to Disagree

1. What are peacemakers?
2. What can God teach us about peace?
3. Why does peace-making matter?
4. How can I grow to become a more faithful peacemaker?

Four Questions to Answer

KEY POINT:

Making peace is an active effort.

What are Peacemakers?

- Pursuing “peace at any price”
- Accepting “anything that avoids trouble”
- The absence of war
- Some New Age form of inner peace

Peacemaking Is Not...

- “Reconciling two or more parties that are not in harmony”
- Restoring people who have been in conflict

“Peace”

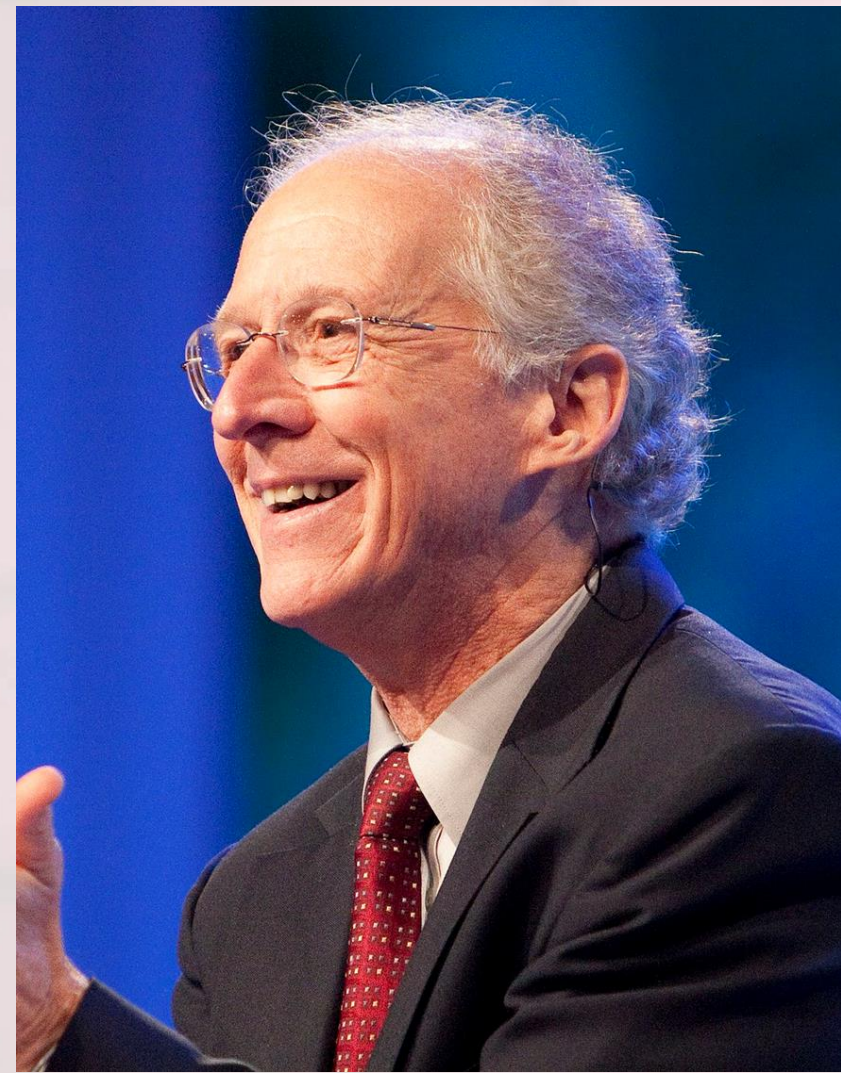
¹⁶ For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there will be disorder and every vile practice. ¹⁷ But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere. ¹⁸ And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.

James 3:16-18

1. Peacemakers have made peace with God (Romans 5:10).
2. Peacemakers lead others to make peace with God (Acts 10:36; II Corinthians 5:17-19).
3. Peacemakers make peace with others (Romans 12:18).
4. Peacemakers look for common ground. (Ephesians 4:15).

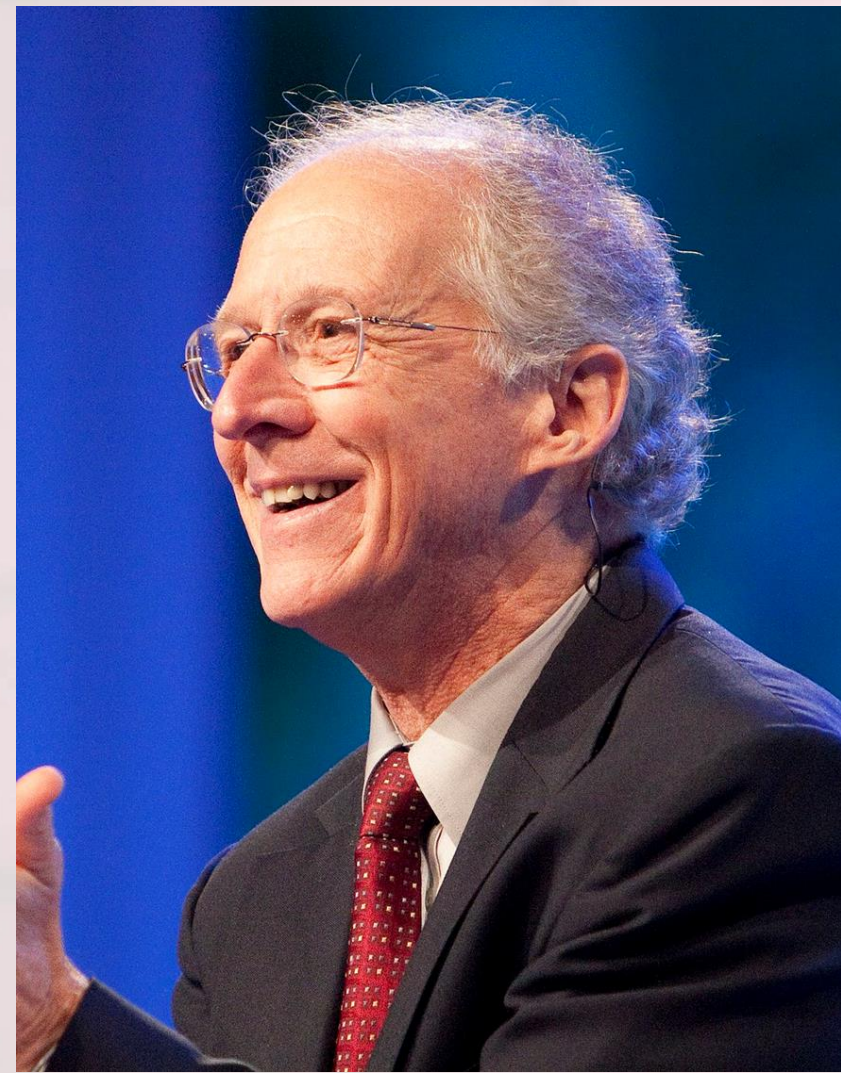
Four Characteristics of a Peacemaker

“Peacemaking tries to build bridges to people. It does not want the animosity to remain. It wants reconciliation. It wants harmony. And so it tries to show what may be the only courtesy the enemy will tolerate, namely,...



John Piper

“...a greeting. The peacemaker looks the enemy right in the eye and says, ‘Good morning, John.’ And he says it with a longing for peace in his heart, not with a phony gloss of politeness to cover his anger.”



John Piper

What Can God Teach Us About Peace?

- God is a God of peace (Judges 6:24; Romans 15:33; I Corinthians 14:33; Philippians 4:9; I Thessalonians 5:23).
- God gives peace (II Thessalonians 3:16).
- God sustains peace (Ephesians 2:13-14).
- The Gospel is a message about peace (John 16:33).

**What Can God Teach Us
About Peace?**

“The reason why there is so much strife in this world, between individuals, families, social or political groups, whether small or large, is that the contending parties, through the fault of either or both, have not found each other at...



William Hendriksen

“...Calvary. Only then, when sinners have been reconciled to God through the cross, will they be truly reconciled to each other.”



William Hendriksen

*⁹ And they sang a new song, saying,
“Worthy are you to take the scroll and to
open its seals, for you were slain,
and by your blood you ransomed people
for God from every tribe and language and
people and nation,¹⁰ and you have made
them a kingdom and priests to our God,
and they shall reign on the earth.”*

Revelation 5:9–10

Why Does Peace-making Matter?

“Peacemaking is not of secondary significance in the family of God. Peacemaking defines the character of God our Father, and it must define the character of his sons and daughters. It must be the mark of his family.”



Alfred Poirier, *The Peacemaking Pastor*

**How Can I Grow to Become a
More Faithful Peacemaker?**

1. Live in James 1:19-20.

**How Can I Grow to Become a
More Faithful Peacemaker?**

*¹⁹ Know this, my beloved brothers:
let every person **BE QUICK TO HEAR,
SLOW TO SPEAK, SLOW TO ANGER;**
²⁰ for the anger of man does not produce
the righteousness of God.*

James 1:19-20

“It improves your ability to understand others, it shows that you realize you do not have all the answers, and it tells the other person that you value his or her thoughts and opinions. Even if you cannot agree with everything others say or do, your willingness to listen demonstrates respect and shows that you are trying...



**Ken Sande,
*The Peacemaker***

“...to understand their perspective. This can help create an atmosphere of mutual respect that will improve communication.”



**Ken Sande,
*The Peacemaker***

1. Live in James 1:19-20.
2. P.A.U.S.E. (prepare, affirm, understand, search, evaluate)

**How Can I Grow to Become a
More Faithful Peacemaker?**

1. Live in James 1:19-20.
2. P.A.U.S.E. (prepare, affirm, understand, search, evaluate)
3. When you offend, work towards making peace.

**How Can I Grow to Become a
More Faithful Peacemaker?**

1. Live in James 1:19-20.
2. P.A.U.S.E. (prepare, affirm, understand, search, evaluate)
3. When you offend, work towards making peace.
4. Resist the temptation toward revenge.

**How Can I Grow to Become a
More Faithful Peacemaker?**

1. Live in James 1:19-20.
2. P.A.U.S.E. (prepare, affirm, understand, search, evaluate)
3. When you offend, work towards making peace.
4. Resist the temptation toward revenge.
5. Overlook minor issues (Proverbs 19:11; 17:14; 20:3).

**How Can I Grow to Become a
More Faithful Peacemaker?**

6. Die to self (Philippians 2:3-4).

**How Can I Grow to Become a
More Faithful Peacemaker?**

6. Die to self (Philippians 2:3-4).
7. Pray for peace (John 14:27; Numbers 6:24-26).

**How Can I Grow to Become a
More Faithful Peacemaker?**

1. Have you made your peace with God?
2. Who are you estranged from?
3. What lies have you believed that the Evil One has sold you?

Now What?

“The more you study and apply God’s peacemaking principles, the more you will see how practical and powerful they are. When used in the light of the gospel, these principles can rob conflict of its destructive tendencies and turn it into an opportunity to find lasting solutions to serious problems,...



Ken Sande,
The Peacemaker

“...to experience significant personal growth, to deepen relationships, and, best of all, to experience and demonstrate the love of God in a new and life-giving way.”



**Ken Sande,
*The Peacemaker***

*Turn away from evil and do good;
seek peace and pursue it.*

Psalm 34:14

*Finally, brothers, rejoice.
Aim for restoration, comfort one another,
agree with one another, live in peace;
and the God of love and peace will be
with you.*

II Corinthians 13:11

And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful.

Colossians 3:15

*20 "I do not ask for these only,
but also for those who will believe in me
through their word, 21 that they may all be
one, just as you, Father, are in me,
and I in you, that they also may be in us,
so that the world may believe that you
have sent me. 22 The glory that you have
given me I have given to them, that they
may be one even as we are one,...*

John 17:20–23

*²³ I in them and you in me,
that they may become perfectly one,
so that the world may know that you sent
me and loved them even as you loved me.*

John 17:20–23