



Bible study for the week starting February 6, 2022

The Peace Maker: Go and Be Reconciled

Chs 7-9; pp. 201-257

SHARE

1. How many times have you said what Rick said on pg 204? “I forgive you, but I can’t be close to you again.” Have you ever felt that way and then later were able to overcome it and be around them?

READ/STUDY/DISCUSS

2. Pastor utilized many scriptures this week and Colossian 3:13b is the most straightforward of those texts. Read the section to gain context. Colossians 3:8-14. Sande tells us the fact: “you cannot do it alone” Read carefully verses 7-10 and discuss with one another how this supports Sande’s thesis.
3. Review the meaning of the two Greek words used for forgiveness as they were discussed in the message. How do those reinforce that forgiving the other person is not about “feelings”?
4. Pages 210-211 present a two stage process of forgiveness. The first stage is *having an attitude of forgiveness* and the second *granting forgiveness*. Read the second full paragraph on page 211 and discuss how God demonstrated these.

Both stages of forgiveness were vividly demonstrated by God. When Christ died on the cross, he maintained an attitude of love and mercy towards those who put him to death. “Father forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing (Luke 23:34). At Pentecost, the Father’s answer to Jesus’ prayer was revealed. 3000 people heard the Apostle Peter’s Pentecost message and were cut to the heart when they realized they had crucified the son of God. As they repented of their sin, forgiveness was completed, and they were fully reconciled to God (Acts 2:36-41). This is exactly the pattern you should follow, “forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you” (Ephesians 4:32).

How does “just as in Christ God forgave you” speak to both God’s plan and our power?

5. Within the first paragraph of pg. 219 we find Sande’s definition of reconciliation. Keeping in mind the difference between “passive” and “active”, discuss your role(s) in reconciliation.
6. As Sande discusses the high value of carefully praying and researching when it is time to confront a significant conflict, he writes on pg. 231, “it will not be a question of *whether* you spend time on the problem; it will be a question of *where* or *how* you spend time on the problem.” What are some other truths about time spent on a conflict whether you have the courage to address it or not
7. Read 1 Samuel 24:17-20. Most of us think we’re right in a conflict, but sometimes we are just protecting our own interests and not really focused on what is right. How can prayer and those four steps of a peacemaker (pg.209) realign us?

Sande, Ken. *The Peace Maker: A Biblical Guide to Resolving Personal Conflict*. Baker Books, Grand Rapids: 2004.



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Matthew 5:21-24 - February 6, 2022 – Pastor D. R. Hilken

"leave your gift there before the altar and GO. First be RECONCILED to your brother, and then come and offer your gift." (Mt. 5:24)

Our path — The four G's of peacemaking: 1) Glorify God
2) Get the log out 3) Gently restore 4) Go and be Reconciled

Beatitudes Bunny Trail ~ The beatitudes are NOT a series of SUGGESTIONS on how to make the world a nicer place.
Jesus is teaching us the characteristics of being a Child of God.
Jesus is NOT teaching here, how to GET IN the Family!

Jesus is making it clear, that on your own you have NO HOPE!
But for the believer and the Holy Spirit in you,
you are made new and INPOWERED to live out this high calling.

Biblical forgiveness is not:

- Natural to proud human hearts
- A feeling, it's a decision, a humble act of the will
- Forgetting – forgetting is PASSIVE, forgiving is ACTIVE!
- Minimizing/excusing
- The removal of all consequences
- Approval of sin
- Equal to trust/RECONCILIATION

Biblical forgiveness is:

- *apheimi* (1 John 1:9, Rom. 4:7, James 5:15, 1 John 2:12)

1 John 1:9 (ESV) --- ⁹ If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to "forgive" (take away from) us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

- *charizomai* (Luke 7:42, Eph. 4:32, Col. 2:13, Col. 3:13)

Luke 7:42 (ESV) --- ⁴² When they could not pay, he "cancelled the debt" (showed grace) of both. Now which of them will love him more?"

Biblical peacemaking promises of forgiveness:

1. "I will not dwell on this incident."
2. "I will not bring up this incident again and use it against you."
3. "I will not talk to others about this incident."
4. "I will not let this incident stand between us or hinder our personal relationship." (with special consideration for abuse)

Faithful OBEDIENCE, Not Results

&

WINSTON CHURCHILL it in your life