



**Bible study for the week starting January 9, 2022**  
**The Peace Maker: Introduction to Biblical Peacemaking**

**SHARE**

1. The vast majority of responses to conflict are “fight” and “flight.” Which are you, and how does this play out in your everyday relationships and conflicts, whether large or small?

**READ/STUDY/DISCUSS**

2. Read Matthew 5:1-11. This list of blessings highlights a list of things that are so important in this life, they have eternal implications. Why is peacemaking part of this list?
3. Is it ever God’s will for us to engage in “attack” responses within the body of Christ? Why or why not? What examples of assault, litigation, and murder can you identify from Scripture or history?
4. Is it ever God’s will for us to engage in “escape” responses within the body of Christ? Why or why not? What examples of denial, flight, or suicide can you identify from Scripture or history?
5. Look through the list of peacemaking responses (back of this page and Sunday’s sermon) and their corresponding verses. How do these responses glorify God, serve others, and imitate Christ?
6. There is a concept in the church regarding whether someone is a “person of peace” or not. (Matt. 10:11-15). What’s the benefit of being someone who would be described this way?
7. If you are driven by feelings and personal opinions, how will the result be different than if your house is built on the “rock” (Matt. 7:24-27)?
8. How does peace with God help bring about peace among people, and vice versa?
9. Jesus prayed for our unity in John 17:20-23 as a way to bolster His reputation; how do you see this happen (or not)?
10. God has given us a path toward peace; what is it?
11. Read 2 Corinthians 5:11-21. What do we hear about our privilege/responsibility in these verses?

**PRAY**

12. God tells us nothing is impossible. Think about the “impossible” people and relationships in your life right now, and pray for God’s will to be done (spoiler alert: it’s peace!).



## The Peace Makers: Intro to Biblical Peacemaking

Matthew 5:1-11

January 9, 2022 – Pastor Eric Van Scharrel

“**BLESSED** are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.”

-Jesus (Matt. 5:9)

The primary tool that equips effective peacemakers is the **GOSPEL** of Jesus Christ.

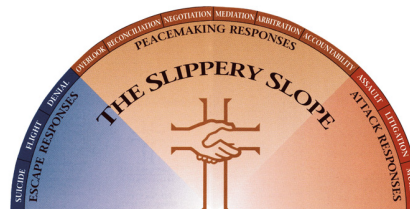
“**FIGHT** or **FLIGHT**” Responses

PEACE **MAKING**:

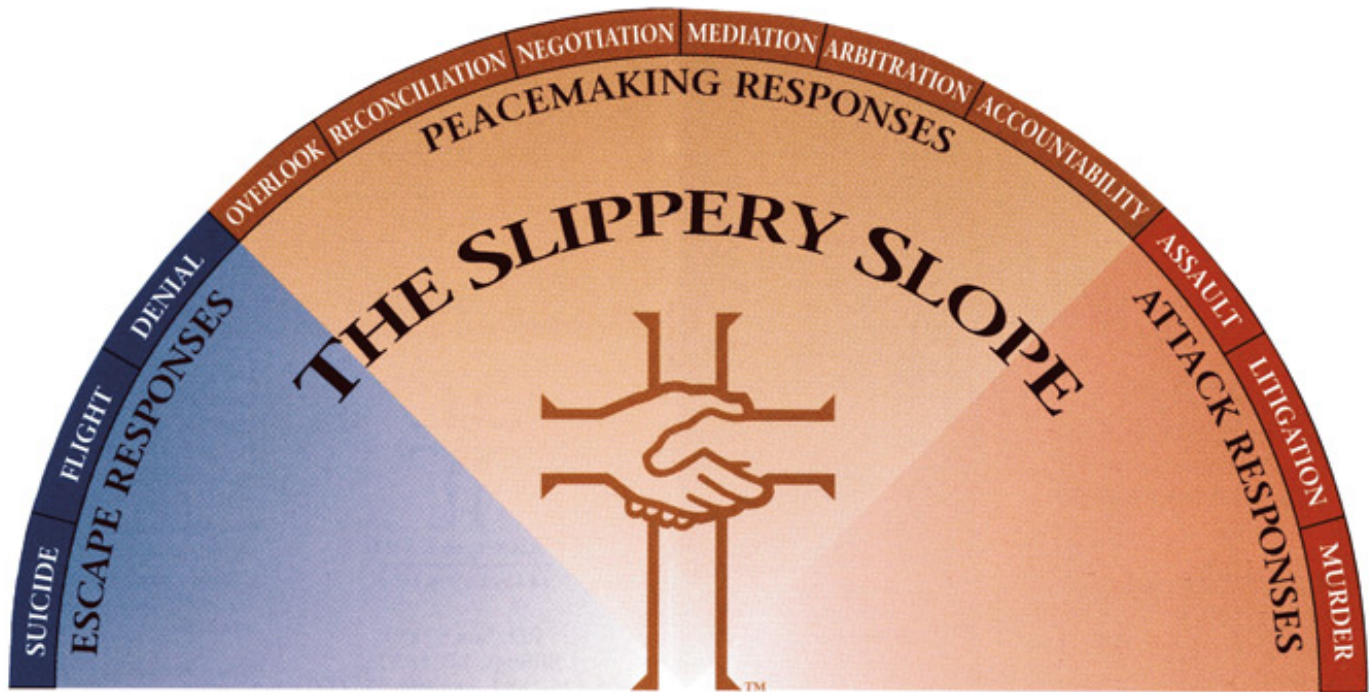
1. **OVERLOOK** “...It is his glory to overlook an offense” (Prov. 19:11).
2. **RECONCILIATION** “Go and be reconciled” (Matt. 5:24).
3. **NEGOTIATION** “Each of you should look...to the interests of others” (Phil. 2:4).
4. **MEDIATION** “If he will not listen...take one or two others along” (Matt. 18:16).
5. **ARBITRATION** “...appoint as judges even men of little account in the church” (1 Cor. 6:4).
6. **ACCOUNTABILITY** “If he refuses to listen, tell it to the church” (Matt. 18:17).

The Slippery Slope of Conflict:

([peacemakerministries.org](http://peacemakerministries.org))



Never let a good conflict go to waste; **GLORIFY** God, **SERVE** others, and **GROW** to be like Christ.



## Principals of Biblical Conflict Resolution

- ✦ Glorify God  
1 Corinthians 10:31
- ✦ Get the Log Out  
Matthew 7:3-5
- ✦ Gently Restore  
Matthew 18:15; Galatians 6:1
- ✦ Go and Be Reconciled  
Matthew 18