

REVIEW

- Week One- VISION: If every family wrote out and agreed upon a vision statement, we would be less likely to serve lesser gods as drivers of our family.
- Week Two- FOCUS: If we consistently evaluate our family schedule according to our vision, we are less likely to spend our time serving lesser gods.
- Week Three- WORDS: If the Holy Spirit controls our words, our entire life will come under His control. Words are for the spiritual benefit of others and can build and change families.
- Today we will cover conflict resolution! Every family has conflicts and it is important to resolve them!

RESOLUTION FOR FAMILY

Family Anthem: Week Four

CONFLICT

- Occasional family conflict is a normal part of life and every family has them. Unresolved conflict can damage relationships.
- What is family conflict?
 - Family conflict can erupt from different views or beliefs, misunderstandings or jumping to conclusions.
 - Hurt or unmanaged feelings are common causes as well as life circumstances in flux and kids changing.
 - Unresolved conflict often leads to arguments and if left undone can lead to divorce or dissolution of the family.

COMMON CAUSES OF FAMILY CONFLICT

It is well recognized that some of the stages a family goes through can cause conflict. These may include:

- Learning to live as a new couple
- Birth of a baby
- Birth of other children
- A child going to school
- A child becoming a young person
- A young person becoming an adult.

Each of these stages can create new and different stresses and potential conflict.

COMMON CAUSES OF FAMILY CONFLICT

Changes in the family situation can also take a toll on the family and contribute to conflict. This may include events such as:

- Separation or divorce
- Moving to a new house or country
- Traveling long distances to work
- Change in financial circumstances.

The opinions, values and needs of each parent can also change and cause conflict.

<https://www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au/health/healthyliving/family-conflict>

GOD WANTS PEACE

- The goal every family must learn is how to resolve conflicts and achieve peaceful solutions.

“BLESSED (enjoying enviable happiness, spiritually prosperous— with life-joy and satisfaction in God’s favor and salvation, regardless of their outward conditions) **ARE THE MAKERS AND MAINTAINERS OF PEACE, FOR THEY SHALL BE CALLED THE SONS OF GOD!”**

Matthew 5:9

Amplified Bible, Classic Edition (AMPC)

PEACEMAKERS

"AND THOSE WHO ARE PEACEMAKERS WILL PLANT SEEDS OF PEACE AND REAP A HARVEST OF RIGHTEOUSNESS."

James 3:18

New Living Translation (NLT)

PEACEMAKERS

PEACE-FAKING = Escape Responses

- People more interested in **AVOIDING** conflict rather than resolving it.
- This is common within the church due to faulty beliefs that conflict is wrong or dangerous and that Christians should always agree.

PEACEMAKERS

PEACE-BREAKING = Attack Responses

- People who want to **WIN** a conflict rather than preserve relationship.
- For some, it's their instant response... For others, if they have been unsuccessful at escaping conflict by ignoring, covering up, and running away, they go on the offensive.

PEACEMAKERS

PEACE-MAKING = Authenticity (Grace and Truth)

- Motivated by love, a desire to honor our Lord Jesus and maintain healthy, godly relationships.
- Peacemakers understand that many offenses and differences should be overlooked. But when an issue is too serious to overlook, they can openly and humbly discuss it.
- When differences cannot be resolved in private, they don't give up – (again, motivated by love) and instead will seek guidance from other believers and submit themselves to the counsel and discipline of the church.

PEACEMAKERS

IF IT IS POSSIBLE, AS MUCH AS DEPENDS ON YOU,
LIVE PEACEABLY WITH ALL MEN. BELOVED, DO NOT
AVENGE YOURSELVES ...

Romans 12:18-19a

10 WORDS

- 10 Simple words, even a child can understand, can calm a raging conflict and turn a family back to love!
 - **"I DID WHAT WAS WRONG"** (5 words of confession)
 - **"I'M SORRY"** (2 words of repentance)
 - **"PLEASE FORGIVE ME"** (3 words of promise)