



# Where Did THAT Come From?

James 4:1-3 / 1 Sam 23:1-12

*Ever shocked by what comes out of your heart?*

**I am more at w \_\_\_ with my d \_\_\_\_\_ than with your wrongs (James 4:1)**

*“Many promising reconciliations have broken down because, while both parties came prepared to forgive, neither party came prepared to be forgiven.” – C Williams*

“For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false testimony, slander” ([Matthew 15:19](#)).

I can plant peace in my conflicts by tracing down my DESIRES with God!

**I will \_\_\_ anything when my deep desire progresses to an i\_\_\_I (James 4:2)**

“epithoumia” =

How a legit thing can become what I want more, give more, fear more, crave more, serve more than God: (i.e. an IDOL)

I DESIRE ----> I D\_\_\_\_\_ND ----> I JU\_\_\_\_\_E ----> I PUNISH

“If you love anything in this world more than God, you will crush that object under the weight of your expectations.” –Tim Keller

**I have unmet desires because I am not \_\_\_\_\_ing God to s\_\_\_\_\_y them (James 4:2b-3, 1 Sam 23:1-12)**

SAUL vs DAVID is a colorful mirror of walking in NA\_\_\_\_\_L you vs \_\_\_\_\_

*E. Perel: “Couples continuously argue over same superficial issues but are actually battling over one of three hidden themes:*

Because JESUS not only saves me but SATISFIES me, I can let go of the exhausting game of **justifying** what I did while **judging** what you did.

## Peacemaker’s Pledge

### GLORIFY GOD

Instead of focusing on our own desires or dwelling on what others may do, we will rejoice in the Lord and bring him praise by depending on his forgiveness, wisdom, power, and love, as we seek to faithfully obey his commands and maintain a loving, merciful, and forgiving attitude (Ps. 37:1-6; Mark 11:25; John 14:15; Rom. 12:17-21; 1 Cor. 10:31; Phil. 4:2-9; Col. 3:1-4; James 3:17-18; 4:1-3; 1 Peter 2:12).

### GET THE LOG OUT OF YOUR EYE

Instead of blaming others for a conflict or resisting correction, we will trust in God’s mercy and take responsibility for our own contribution to conflicts—confessing our sins to those we have wronged, asking God to help us change any attitudes and habits that lead to conflict, and seeking to repair any harm we have caused (Prov. 28:13; Matt. 7:3-5; Luke 19:8; Col. 3:5-14; 1 John 1:8-9).

### GENTLY RESTORE

Instead of pretending that conflict doesn’t exist or talking about others behind their backs, we will overlook minor offenses or we will talk personally and graciously with those whose offenses seem too serious to overlook, seeking to restore them rather than condemn them. When a conflict with a Christian brother or sister cannot be resolved in private, we will ask others in the body of Christ to help us settle the matter in a biblical manner (Prov. 19:11; Matt. 18:15-20; 1 Cor. 6:1-8; Gal. 6:1-2; Eph. 4:29; 2 Tim. 2:24-26; James 5:9).

### GO AND BE RECONCILED

Instead of accepting premature compromise or allowing relationships to wither, we will actively pursue genuine peace and reconciliation—forgiving others as God, for Christ’s sake, has forgiven us, and seeking just and mutually beneficial solutions to our differences (Matt. 5:23-24; 6:12; 7:12; Eph. 4:1-3, 32; Phil. 2:3-4).



### THE SEVEN A’S OF CONFESSION

Matt. 7:3-5; 1 John 1:8-9; Prov. 28:13

- A**DDRESS everyone involved
- A**VOID if, but, and maybe
- A**DMIT specifically
- A**CKNOWLEDGE the hurt
- A**CCCEPT the consequences
- A**LTER your behavior
- A**SK for forgiveness

### THE FOUR PROMISES OF FORGIVENESS

Matt. 6:12; 1 Cor. 13:5; Eph. 4:32

- 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 PAUSE PRINCIPLE OF NEGOTIATING

Phil. 2:3-4; Matt. 7:12

- P**repare
- A**ffirm relationships
- U**nderstand interests
- S**earch for creative solutions
- E**valuate options objectively and reasonably

### GETTING UPSTREAM OF CONFLICT

Visit [Academy.rw360.org](http://Academy.rw360.org) to develop skills that will strengthen your relationships and actually **prevent conflict!**



Our mission is to equip Christians to develop strong, enduring and appealing relationships that display the love of Jesus Christ and the transforming power of his gospel. We provide educational resources, seminar and training to help churches, seminaries, ministries and businesses around the world. We also provide conflict coaching, mediation and arbitration services to help resolve family conflicts, business disputes, church divisions and lawsuits in a way that restores relationships, promotes justice and brings peace.

### TO DIG DEEPER:

Dave Harvey, *When Sinners Say I Do*

Ken Sande: *The Peacemaker: A Biblical Guide to Resolving Personal Conflict* and *Peacemaking For Families*