



## Peacemaker or Pot-stirrer

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Actual World News Headlines:

- Haiti spirals to collapse as gangs tighten grip
- East Ukraine braces for Russian advance
- Biden and Trump hold competing rallies in Georgia
- India to enforce migrant law that excludes Muslims
- 7 “Must Try” foods at Disney World

### Matthew 5:9

*“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.”*

What is a peacemaker?

How does one become a peacemaker?

What does a peacemaker do?

### Isaiah 9:6-7

*“For to us a child is born, to us a son is given,  
and the government will be on his shoulders.  
And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,  
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the greatness of his government and peace  
there will be no end.”*

“Jesus is the supreme Peacemaker. Jesus came to establish peace; his message explained peace; his death purchased peace; and his resurrected presence enables peace.”

How does a person become a peacemaker?

- ➡ Peace with God
  - ➡ Peace with self
    - ➡ Peace with others
      - ➡ Peace for others

### **Ephesians 2:8**

*“For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God....”*

### **Romans 5:1**

*“Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,...*

### **God says . . .**

You are a new creation in Christ. **2 Corinthians 5:17**

You are forgiven and your sins are washed away. **Ephesians 1:7**

You are more than a conqueror through Christ. **Romans 8:37**

You are God’s masterpiece. **Ephesians 2:10 NLT**

You are the light of this world. **Matthew 5:14**

### **God says . . .**

You are filled with the same spirit that raised Christ. **Romans 8:11**

You are a joint heir with Christ. **Romans 8:17**

You are Christ’s ambassador. **2 Corinthians 5:20**

You are the righteousness of God in Christ. **2 Corinthians 5:21**

You are greatly loved by God. **Romans 1:7**

### **Matthew 5:23-24, MSG**

*“This is how I want you to conduct yourself in these matters. If you enter your place of worship and, about to make an offering, you suddenly remember a grudge a friend has against you, abandon your offering, leave immediately, go to this friend and make things right. Then and only then, come back and work things out with God.”*

### **1 Peter 3:10-11, MSG**

“Whoever wants to embrace life and see the day fill up with good, here’s what you do: Say nothing evil or hurtful; snub evil and cultivate good; run after peace for all you’re worth.”

### **You might be a pot-stirrer if . . .**

- You are more stimulated than heartbroken by conflict
- You bring more criticisms than possible solutions to the table
- You avoid the messiness and hard work of reconciliation
- You tend to divide more than unite people
- You seek conflict rather than resolution
- You surround yourself with others that think exactly like you
- You speak more than you listen

### **2 Corinthians 5:17-18, GW**

*“Whoever is a believer in Christ is a new creation. The old way of living has disappeared. A new way of living has come into existence. God has done all this. He has restored our relationship with him through Christ, and has given us this ministry of restoring relationships.”*

### **So What Does a Peacemaker Do?**

Makes peace with God

Makes peace with Him/Her-self based upon God’s truth alone

Makes peace with others, taking the initiative to make things right

Seeks ways to reconcile others to Christ and to one another

### **Matthew 5:9**

*“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.”*