

An Ounce of Prevention

“Resolving Everyday Conflict” series

MBC November 17, 2013 – Pastor Barry R. Mulligan

PEACEMAKING RESPONSES

G-1: Go to Higher Ground – Glorify God Remember what is most important during a conflict. 1 Corinthians 10:31, John 17:1-23

G-2: Get Real – (Get the Log Out of Your Eye) Take responsibility for your contribution to a conflict. Matthew 7:1-5

G-3: Gently Engage Others (Gently Restore) Help others see how they have contributed to a conflict Matthew 18:15-16

G-4: Get Together on Lasting Solutions (Go and be Reconciled) Strengthen relationships through genuine reconciliation & agreement. Matthew 5:23-24

Proactive **Restoration**

Path of **Prevention**

²¹Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good. Romans 12:21

SOURCES OF CONFLICT

- God-given Diversity
- Misunderstandings
- Limited Resources
- My Selfish Desires
- Different **Value** Systems: God’s vs. the World’s
- **Spiritual** Opposition

We have an **Enemy** that **Hates** us.

To be peacemakers, we are called to **fight**.

⁹Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. ¹⁰Be devoted to one another in brotherly love. Honor one another above yourselves. ¹¹Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord. ¹²Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. ¹³Share with God’s people who are in need. Practice hospitality. ¹⁴Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. ¹⁵Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn. ¹⁶Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud, but be willing to associate with people of low position. Do not be conceited. ¹⁷Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everybody. ¹⁸If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone. ¹⁹Do not take revenge, my friends, but leave room for God’s wrath, for it is written: “It is mine to avenge; I will repay,” says the Lord. ²⁰On the contrary: “If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink. In doing this, you will heap burning coals on his head.” ²¹Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good. Romans 12:9-21

Listen to Godly Counsel. Proverbs 13:20; 27:5-6

Consider Others Better Than Yourself. Romans 12:9, 16

Pray for Yourself & Others. Romans 12:11-12

Control Your Tongue. Romans 12:14-15

Do What is Right. Romans 12:17-19

Use the Ultimate Weapon – **Love** Romans 12:9, 13, 20-21

HOMEWORK

Read Luke 6:27-36

- Identify the number of different resources we are called to use in our battle to bring peace.