

#4 Get Real (Get the log out of our own eye)
Peacemaker Ministries Resolving Conflict Series

I. Recap

1. Glorify God, not myself.

1 Corinthians 10:31 *"So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God."*

2. God enables me to treat others differently.

Matthew 5:44-45 (Jesus said) *"But I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven..."*

II. Get Real About Myself – "Speck" in my eye

Matthew 7:1-6 Page #963

1. We are sometimes blind to our own sins and issues.

2. We often minimize our sins.

3. Jesus is calling us to speak to one another about sin and hurt.

John 7:24 Jesus said, *"Do not judge according to appearance, but judge with righteous judgment."*

4. He said we are to start with "God and ourselves".

Psalms 139:23-24 Search me, O God, and know my heart; Try me and know my anxious thoughts;

24 And see if there be any hurtful way in me, And lead me in the everlasting way.

5. We are responsible for our contribution.

6. When we apologize first and or go humbly, people tend to respond better.

7. Humility often incites mutual confession.

8. Seeing clearly enhances our effectiveness in spiritual surgery.

Galatians 6:1 *..."if a man is overtaken in any trespass, you who are spiritual restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness."*

9. We are not responsible for another's responses.
10. Sinful anger indicates an idol is being Starved or Poked.
11. When someone blocks our agenda we strike back or strike out.
12. God is always at work in our going to others.

Faith Sheet

Transformation Verse - *And all those who had believed were together and had all things in common* Acts 2:44 (NASB)

Times with the Lord this week - If you have extra time, look up the cross references with the Transformation Scripture.

#1- Reviewing this Past Sunday

1. Read Jeremiah 2:13. What is our core problem in conflicts?
2. Why is it that focusing on blame instead of Godly solutions escalates a fight?
3. What "idols" (cravings) do you think ruin most relationships?

2- Preparing for Next Sunday

Accepting Responsibility #5

Peacemaker Ministries Resolving Conflict Series

1. Why is it so important in relationships to own and express our feelings, expectations, mistakes and sins?
2. It is said that a true apology is a promise, by God's grace, to change future behavior. Why is an apology crucial to depth in relationships?
3. Read Proverbs 28:13 and 12:18. What makes a good confession and apology?

#4 Get Real (Get the Log Out of Your Own Eye)
Peacemaker Ministries Resolving Conflict Series

I. Recap

2. Glorify God

1 Corinthians 10:31 *"So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God."*

2. "The way God has treated me now enables me to treat others differently."

II. Video

1. What did you see, feel, and think?

2. "You" did this... or "I will look stupid."

- How do these types of statements hurt Christ's name and our relationships?

III. Get Real About Yourself – Deal with "Speck" in our own eye

9. We are sometimes "blind" to our own issues.

10. We sometimes "minimize" our own issues.

11. Jesus is not forbidding talking to others about sin issues.

12. He said we start with God and ourselves.

13. We are all responsible for "our contribution."

14. "The Golden Response" – When we apologize first people tend to respond better and often it invites mutual confession.

IV. Video #2 – What did you see, feel, and think?

1. The "Blame Game" almost always causes serious trouble.

V. Getting to the Heat of a Conflict

1. James 4:1-2 *"What is the source of quarrels and conflicts among you? Is not the source your pleasures that wage war in your members? You lust and do not have; so you commit murder. You are envious and cannot obtain; so you fight and quarrel. You do not have because you do not ask."*

2. Someone's cravings are always the main issue in any conflict.

3. How do we do a "log" hunt in our own eyes and heart?

4. Bible calls these cravings "idols".

5. "Idols" – "What do we think will give Satisfaction and Security other than God?"
6. Anger is a signal that a craving (idol) is being Starved or Poked.
7. Examples – Respect, to be liked, look good in front of others, control...

III. How does An Idol Work?

1. Starts as a desire (often healthy), becomes a demand and replaces God.
2. Then we get disappointed.
3. Turns to judgment (on God, self, or others)
4. Then we punish (strike back – words, cold shoulder, withhold love, withdraw, gossip, leave, etc.)
5. We are trying to "train" the other person to give us our craving.

IV. How does one Look for Idols in our Life?

1. What do I fear or worry about?
2. What would I do to get "happiness"?
3. How would I sin to get what I want?
4. Do I stretch the truth to get what I want?
5. Do I ask others regularly what they see in my life?
6. We tend to only deal with issues at a superficial level and not the root level where the idol lives.(We will repeat same sin over till idol is crucified.)

V. How Do We Deal With Idols (cravings) Once We Recognize Them?

(Remember- we are actually worshipping false gods by following cravings)

1. Repent.
2. Replace idol worship with worship of true God. True satisfying love overcomes "cheaper and lesser loves."
3. "Sin" is what we do when we are not satisfied in God.
4. Lifelong journey of maturing our love for God.
5. The log in eye concept shows we often have more of a contributing influence than we are willing to admit.
6. In a conflict we need a "mirror" not a "microscope."

IX. Discuss the Lesson and Read Matthew 7:1-6

1. What is He saying to you?
2. What is your response?
3. What questions do you have?