



Relational Peacemaking in the Family

2021 RW360 Sowing Peace Conference
Corlette Sande

The Call to Live as Peacemakers

*Strive for peace with everyone (Heb. 12:14).
If possible, as far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all (Romans 12:18).*

The Challenge of Relational Peacemaking

What causes fights and quarrels among you? Don't they come from your desires that battle within you? (James 4:1)

Desires → Expectations → Demands → Judgment → Punishment → Relational Breakdown

- Good desires make bad "gods."
- "Emotional hijacking" impacts relationships.

The Practice of Relational Peacemaking

*For whoever desires to love life and see good days ...
let him seek peace and pursue it (1 Pet. 3: 11).*

Understanding where conflict comes from

Out of the overflow of the heart the mouth speaks (Luke 6:45).

Responding to conflict by blaming or confessing

He who conceals his sin does not prosper, but whoever confesses and renounces them finds mercy (Proverbs 28:13).

- Admit
- Apologize
- Accept the consequences
- Ask for forgiveness
- Alter your choice

Forgiveness can heal broken relationships

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness (1 John 1:9).

- Good thought
- Hurt you not
- Gossip never
- Friends forever!

Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another as God in Christ forgave you (Eph. 4:32).

Using the S.O.G. Plan to Build and Rebuild Relationships

You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart ... and love our neighbor as yourself (Matt. 22:27-39).

- Self-aware
- Other-aware
- God-aware

The R.E.A.D. Principle

For God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control (2 Tim. 1:7).

- Recognize my emotions
- Evaluate the source of my emotions
- Anticipate the consequences of following my emotions
- Direct my emotions on a constructive course

The Blessing of Relational Peacemaking

God **promises** "perfect peace" when we put our trust in Him.

(Is. 26:3)

Paul **commands** Christians to "live at peace" with everyone.

(Rom. 12:18)

James **declares** that peacemakers who sow in peace raise a "harvest of righteousness."

(James 3:18)

Jesus **identifies** peacemakers as the "children of God."

(Matt. 5:9)

