

Three dimensions of peace God offers through Christ

Peace with God. (Colossians 1:19–20; Romans 5:1–2); Peace with others. (Ephesians 2:11–18; Psalm 133:1; Romans 12:18; Matthew 22:39); Peace within yourself. (1 John 3:21–24)

Internal peace is a byproduct. of righteousness. (Isaiah 26:3; 32:17; 48:18)

Jesus' _____ depends on unity.

Peace in our relationships is an "essential element of your Christian witness." (Matthew 5:9; John 17:20–23; John 13:34–35; 1 Peter 2:12)

You must be at peace with others before you can _____. (Matthew 5:21–24; 1 John 4:19–21)

Enemies of peace

- Greed and dishonesty. (Acts 5:3)
- Deception from _____. (2 Timothy 2:25–26)
- Unresolved _____. (Ephesians 4:26–27)
- False teachers promoting wrong values that encourage selfishness and stimulate controversy. (1 Timothy 4:1–3)

To combat Satan's opposition to peace, we must _____ resist the devil. (John 4:7; 1 Peter 5:9; Ephesians 6:12)

We must be ready to _____ in our peacemaking. (Ephesians 4:1–3)

The church and the court

Reasons to resolve conflict in church rather than the court.

Litigation	Biblical Peacemaking
Usually _____ tensions and often _____ relationships.	Encourages _____ and _____.
Doesn't deal with the underlying _____ of the conflict. It tends to lead people to be _____ and promote what they have done right.	Points people to Christ to solve the _____.
Limited in the _____ it promotes.	Can promote true _____.
Threatens the witness for Christ.	Preserves the witness for Christ.

Steps to obedience

The more and better you _____ God, the easier it is to _____ Him. The more you _____ Him, the easier it is to _____.

_____ ⇒ _____ ⇒ _____

God's sovereignty

Defined.

"To be sovereign means to be supreme, unlimited, and totally independent of any other influence." (60)

_____ alone has this power. (Psalm 86:10; Isaiah 46:9–10)

Domains of God's sovereignty

- _____ and preservation. (Psalm 135:6–7; John 1:3; Colossians 1:16–17; Revelation 4:11)
- _____. (Proverbs 21:1; Daniel 2:20–21; 4:35)
- Individual _____ and destinies. (Jeremiah 18:6; John 6:39; Romans 9:15–16; 15:32; Ephesians 1:11–12; James 4:15)
- _____ events. (Matthew 10:29)

Examples of trusting the sovereign God:

Jesus. (Matthew 26:42; Luke 23:46; 1 Peter 2:23)

Paul. (2 Timothy 1:12)

Understanding the role of God's sovereignty in unjust or painful events.

- God is never the _____ of sin. (James 1:13–14; 1 John 1:5)
- God never takes _____ in what is hurtful. (Ezekiel 33:11)
- Allowing evil is not the same as causing it. (Acts 2:23)
- At the right time, God administers _____ on the wicked. (Proverbs 16:4–5; Psalm 33:10–11)
- Sovereignty does not release us from _____ for our actions. (Matthew 12:36; Romans 14:12)

"Nothing in our lives happens by _____." (62)

* Sande, Ken. *The Peacemaker: A Biblical Guide to Resolving Personal Conflict*. 3rd ed. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books, 2004.