

# Peacemaker Ministries

Equipping and assisting Christians and their churches  
to respond to conflict biblically



## Getting to Know Peacemaker Ministries



PEACEMAKER  
MINISTRIES

## The Painful Reality of Conflict

Conflict is widespread in the world today. And even in the church, it's all too common for Christians to be drawn into the world's way of responding to conflict—sometimes escaping... sometimes fighting to win at all costs.

Conflict often carves a **destructive path**. It destroys marriages. It destroys families. It destroys friendships, business relationships, ministries, and even entire churches. Perhaps less obvious, even "low level" conflict like gossip or bitterness will sap a church's energy, wear down its leaders, and corrode its witness.

But the gospel **brings hope** for Christians and churches in conflict.



### The Cost of Conflict

- Thousands of Christians leave the church due to unresolved conflict
- The 34% divorce rate in the church matches that of the world
- Christians spend many millions of dollars each year suing one another
- 40% of pastors experience "serious conflict" at least once a month
- 1,500 pastors quit every month due to conflict, burnout, or moral failure

## The Reconciling Power of the Gospel

*The greatest conflict in history—the one between God and man—was reconciled on the cross, so there is hope for reconciliation in any other conflict.* Even when we were still his enemies, God made peace with us through the death and resurrection of his Son. And since we have been reconciled with God, we can be reconciled with one another. Because God has forgiven us in Christ, we can forgive others. This is a radically different way for Christians to relate to each other—a way that glorifies his Son and powerfully appeals to a watching world. Peacemaker Ministries exists to help the church live out this wonderful truth.

## Helping to Bring About a Culture of Peace

For over 25 years, Peacemaker Ministries has helped both individuals and churches to **respond to conflict biblically**. Whether a church is in the midst of conflict or wisely preparing for its inevitable arrival, our primary desire is to equip churches on their journey toward a "Culture of Peace," where people are eager and able to resolve conflict and reconcile relationships in a way that clearly reflects the love and power of Jesus Christ. Through our **resources, training and conciliation services**, we consistently point Christians to the power of the gospel, and encourage them to embrace and apply it to their relationships.

*"Peacemakers who sow in peace raise a harvest of righteousness." —James 3:18*

# Serving Christians and Churches

## Resources

Peacemaker Ministries offers a range of Bible studies and other resources to support churches on their journey toward a Culture of Peace. The core resource for this purpose is the *Peacemaking Church Resource Set*, by which an entire church can study **biblical peacemaking** together and then form a permanent peacemaking ministry. We also offer many other biblical resources for children, teens, women, and church leaders.

For more information, visit

[www.peacemaker.net/resources](http://www.peacemaker.net/resources).



**“If any of you has a dispute with another, dare he take it before the ungodly for judgment instead of before the saints?”**  
1 Corinthians 6:1

## Training

For those who desire to dig deeper, Peacemaker Ministries trains Christians to provide **biblical assistance to others experiencing conflict**. We particularly focus on equipping church “peacemaking teams”—peacemaking ministries embedded within local churches. Foundational Skills Training teaches the basic skills needed to serve as a peacemaker. Individuals who are particularly gifted and called as peacemakers may pursue Advanced Training and accreditation as a Certified Christian Conciliator™. For more information, visit [www.peacemaker.net/training](http://www.peacemaker.net/training).

## Conciliation Services

Sometimes a conflict is so serious or involves so many people, that Christians and churches need outside help to resolve it. 1 Corinthians 6 gives a clear call for Christians to avoid relying on the secular court system, so the Institute for Christian Conciliation, a division of Peacemaker Ministries, offers a network of **trained professionals** to provide **direct assistance** to individuals and organizations in conflict through its conciliation services. These services include conflict coaching, mediation, arbitration, and church/organizational intervention. For more information, visit [www.peacemaker.net/ICC](http://www.peacemaker.net/ICC).



**Our Mission: To Equip and Assist Christians and Their Churches to Respond to Conflict Biblically**

**By 2012,  
we plan  
to:**

- introduce a million people a year to biblical peacemaking
- educate 500,000 Christians in basic peacemaking concepts
- equip 200,000 Christians with practical peacemaking skills
- engage 4,000 churches on their journey toward a Culture of Peace
- support 1,000 registered church Peacemaking Teams

## A Global Ministry

Destructive conflict among Christians is a global reality—therefore **our mission extends to the church around the world.**

Our international efforts primarily focus on:

- Providing foundational peacemaking resources in the major languages of the world.
- Partnering strategically with worldwide educational institutions so the next generation of leaders in the global church will be trained in biblical peacemaking.
- Encouraging an ongoing ministry of peacemaking by local Christians in key regions.

The gospel transcends cultural boundaries—wherever you are, Christ alone is our ultimate hope for peace. Peacemaker Ministries **is committed to equipping Christians and churches** around the world to join God in his incredible work of reconciliation. God is opening the door for many exciting ministry opportunities around the globe.

“**My country is going through a huge political and social crisis that is taking it to the brink of widespread violence and civil war. I want to learn how to positively impact my culture by using biblical principles of peacemaking. I can use them in my life, and they are powerful enough for my country.**”

***Our peacemaking resources have gone out to over 120 countries and have been translated into dozens of languages.***

*We often use the “coffee house” imagery in our materials, so you might be wondering...*

### What does coffee have to do with peacemaking?

While there is a place for professional assistance, most of the time biblical peacemaking is a lot more informal. It may simply look like two friends meeting together over a cup of coffee and asking each other, “What would please and honor the Lord in this situation?” As Christians learn to live a *lifestyle* of reconciliation, they’ll find that peacemaking sometimes comes with cream and sugar!

“**Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called sons of God.**”  
Matthew 5:9



# You Are Part of the Ministry of Reconciliation

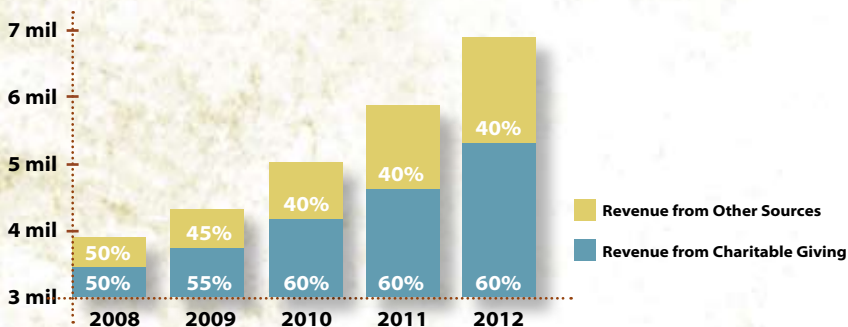
*"All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation." (2 Corinthians 5:18).*

If you are a follower of Jesus Christ, you have the privilege of being used by him to advance the ministry of reconciliation. We invite you to use our resources and training to prepare yourself to practice peacemaking in your own life. As your skills grow, you can also experience the joy of helping others respond to conflict in a biblically faithful way.

Please also consider joining us in this exciting ministry by becoming a financial partner. We depend on contributions for over half of our budget. Your gift can transform lives by helping us to serve people in crisis, provide training scholarships to pastors, and equip churches, seminaries, and missionary groups around the world to make peacemaking a core part of their ministries.

Please visit us at [www.](http://www.Peacemaker.net)

**Peacemaker.net** or call 406-256-1583 to learn how we can work together to help others learn about and experience the reconciling power of Jesus Christ.



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