

Transforming Conflict
Cornerstone Church of Poway
Pastor Henry Tan – Guest Speaker
July 25, 2021

Transforming Conflict: Don't be too quick to settle, meet the REAL Transformer!

Big Idea: Don't just settle conflicts, instead seek conflict transformation.

Intro:

1. Conflict abounds in life.

2. Definition of Conflict

Conflict is an incompatibility in desires that leads to a poverty of shalom within interdependent relationships.

Conflict is a result of relationships that don't work, not simply relationships with other humans but relationships with ourselves, God, and the rest of creation as well.

~Kenneth Acha

NOTE: Differences between two parties don't have to cause conflict.

Conflict only exists when such differences affect a relationship.

3. Examples of Conflict in the Bible

- a. Satan and God
- b.
- c.
- d.

4. Peace

- a. Occurs 353 times in NASB
- b. 237 times in OT – **Shalom**
- c. 116 times in NT - **Eirene**

Biblical PEACE has a lot to do with wholeness, completeness, and harmony of relationships within self, with others, with God and the rest of creation.

It touches on the **whole** being, body, soul, and spirit.

5. OT Peace (Shalom)

- a. Shalom – more than the cessation or absence of conflict or hostility.

6. NT Peace (Eirene)

- a. *Eirene – the condition and sense of being safe and secure.*
- b. *Paints a picture of the fruit of the work of the cross of Christ, his death, his resurrection, and his victory over sin.*
- c. *Describes a state of either physical or spiritual well-being.*
- d. *Jesus used it as a blessing (Luke 24:36; John 14:27; 16:33).*

7. What is Peacemaking?

Peacemaking is the ushering of God's shalom, in all its fullness, into every aspect of life by relying on God's grace.

8. What is a Peacemaker?

A peacemaker is a person who *trusts God and relies on His grace to usher God's shalom* in all its fullness into every aspect of life.

9. Four Dimensions of Peace

- a. Peace with _____.
- b. Peace with _____.
- c. Peace with _____.
- d. Peace with _____.

10. Lessons from the Life of Joseph

- a. Conflict prevention

- b. Conflict management Gen 37:23-28

- c. Conflict settlement Gen 42:14-20

- d. Conflict resolution Gen 45:3

- e. Conflict transformation Gen 45:8ff

11. Conflict Transformation

A way to view conflict not as a problem to be managed or resolved, but as an *opportunity to **strengthen** the common life of any group.*

Review:

- Peacemaking
- Conflict resolution
- Conflict transformation

Questions???

1. How can you move from conflict resolution to conflict transformation?
2. How can you adapt to a paradigm of seeing conflicts as opportunities to strengthen the common life of any group?
3. Discuss some family norms for conflict transformation.



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Intro:

1. Conflict abounds in life.

What was a most recent conflict you had either at home, work or play?

What definition of conflict did you use to answer the first question?

2. Definition of Conflict

Conflict is an incompatibility in desires that leads to a poverty of shalom within interdependent relationships.

Conflict is a result of relationships that don't work, not simply relationships with other humans but relationships with ourselves, God, and the rest of creation as well.

~Kenneth Acha

NOTE: Differences between two parties don't have to cause conflict.

Conflict only exists when such differences affect a relationship

3. What are some examples of conflict in the Bible using the definition above? When did conflict begin?

- a. Satan and God
- b. Satan and God
- c. Adam and Eve with God
- d. Cain and Abel
- e. Abraham and Lot
- f. Jacob and Laban
- g. Joseph and his brothers
- h. Joseph and Potiphar (and his wife)
- i.
- j.
- k.

4. What would you like in place of conflict? Peace

- a. Occurs 353 times in NASB
- b. 237 times in OT – **Shalom**
- c. 116 times in NT - **Eirene**

Biblical PEACE has a lot to do with wholeness, completeness, and harmony of relationships within self, with others, with God and the rest of creation.

It touches on the **whole** being, body, soul, and spirit.

5. OT Peace (Shalom)

- a. Shalom – more than the cessation or absence of conflict or hostility
- b. It means Wholeness, completeness, personal welfare, personal health, peace, sound.

- c. It refers to “a condition or sense of harmony, well-being, and prosperity.”
- d. It refers to living “in tranquility,” “at ease,” unconcerned.”

6. NT Peace (Eirene)

- a. *Eirene – the condition and sense of being safe and secure.*
- b. *Paints a picture of the fruit of the work of the cross of Christ, his death, his resurrection, and his victory over sin.*
- c. *Describes a state of either physical or spiritual well-being.*
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8. What is a Peacemaker?

A peacemaker is a person who *trusts God and relies on His grace to usher God’s shalom* in all its fullness into every aspect of life.

9. How often are you a peacemaker in this sense? How can you consistently do so?

10. Four Dimensions of Peace

- a. Peace with God
- b. Peace with others
- c. Peace with self
- d. Peace with the rest of creation

How can you actively pursue this?

11. Lessons from the Life of Joseph Genesis 37-50. How did Joseph deal with his conflict with his brothers?

- a. Conflict prevention Gen 37:1-11
- b. Conflict management Gen 37:23-28
- c. Conflict settlement Gen 42:14-20
- d. Conflict resolution Gen 45:3
- e. Conflict transformation Gen 45-50

12. Conflict Transformation

A way to view conflict not as a problem to be managed or resolved, but as an *opportunity to **strengthen** the common life of any group.*

13. How can we ensure that we do not settle too quickly, prematurely?

Review:

-Peacemaking -Conflict resolution -Conflict transformation

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