

**Conflict Happens**  
Family: More or Less Ideal – Part 3 of 6  
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**“Weather and Mood: Rainy with a Chance of Depression”**

Genesis 1:28 And God blessed them. And God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth.” ESV

**Dominion:** “to subdue something and make it useful for a purpose”

Romans 14:19 So then let us pursue what makes for peace and for mutual upbuilding. ESV

**Jesus paid a high price to reconcile us to God** (Ephesians 2:13-16)

Ephesians 2:13-14 But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. <sup>14</sup> For he himself is our peace, who has made us both one and has broken down in his flesh the dividing wall of hostility ESV

Ephesians 2:15-16 by abolishing the law of commandments expressed in ordinances, that he might create in himself one new man in place of the two, so making peace, <sup>16</sup> and might reconcile us both to God in one body through the cross, thereby killing the hostility. ESV

**Reconcile:** “to reestablish friendly interpersonal relations that have been disrupted or broken”

**Jesus makes reconciliation a major priority for His followers** (Matthew 5:23-24)

Matthew 5:23-24 So if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, <sup>24</sup> leave your gift there before the altar and go. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift. ESV

**Harmony**

People who are especially talented in the Harmony theme look for consensus.  
**They don't enjoy conflict;** rather, they seek areas of agreement.

## **How to Diffuse Conflict When It Erupts**

### **Don't React, Pray Instead**

### **Give A Soft Answer**

Proverbs 15:1 A soft answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger. ESV

### **Pursue Peace by Talking It Out**

Romans 12:18 If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. ESV

### **My Next Step today is to...**

- ☐ Memorize: Romans 14:19 “So then let us pursue what makes for peace and for mutual upbuilding.” ESV
- ☐ Pursue peace by seeking to reconcile a broken relationship today