

Play #4 Peace If Possible
The Proven Playbook – Part 4 of 5
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Play #4 “Peace If Possible”

Making Peace Has Many Benefits

- Blessing (Matthew 5:9)

Matthew 5:9 “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God. ESV

- Delight (Psalm 133:1)

Psalm 133:1 Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity! ESV

- Future Good (James 3:18)

James 3:18 And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace. ESV

- A Good Conscience (1 Timothy 1:5; 1 Timothy 1:18-19; Acts 24:16)

2 Benefits of a Good Conscience

1. Love flows from it (1 Timothy 1:5)

1 Timothy 1:5 The aim of our charge is love that issues from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith. ESV

2. Protection from spiritual disaster (1 Timothy 1:18-19)

1 Timothy 1:18–19 This charge I entrust to you, Timothy, my child, in accordance with the prophecies previously made about you, that by them you may wage the good warfare, 19 holding faith and a good conscience. By rejecting this, some have made shipwreck of their faith, ESV

Acts 24:16 So I always take pains to have a clear conscience toward both God and man. ESV

Christ followers take initiative to clear up relationships

Heart Attitude #4 Clear Up Relationships with Others

How to Take Initiative – 2 Scenarios

Start Here: Pray & Ask God to Help You Clear Things Up

Scenario #1 You Offended Them (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, 24 leave your gift there before the altar and go. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift. ESV

1. Pray and think until I can name the wrong specifically
2. Go directly to the person I've offended and ask forgiveness
3. Make restitution if needed
4. If they forgive me, I thank them...If they don't forgive me, I leave the matter to God

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

Scenario #2 You are Offended (Luke 17:3-4)

Luke 17:3–4 Pay attention to yourselves! If your brother sins, rebuke him, and if he repents, forgive him, 4 and if he sins against you seven times in the day, and turns to you seven times, saying, 'I repent,' you must forgive him." ESV

1. Pray and think through the specific offense
2. Ask them if you can talk privately

3. If they ask you to forgive them, let it go
4. If they don't ask forgiveness, forgive them anyway

My Next Step today is to...

- ☐ Take initiative to clear things up with _____
- ☐ Refuse to harbor resentment any longer towards _____
- ☐ Sign up for a Topic Group