

Set Apart From Conflict Through Forgiveness



As Christians, we are not exempt from conflict or difficult relationships. We are however, called to respond differently to them. What is our response when we feel we have been wronged by a fellow believer? Does avoiding disagreements make us peacemakers, or does it give us a false sense of peace that allows bitterness or judgment to seep into our heart? Join me in studying Matthew 5 to see what Jesus expects of us in the face of these situations and what our response to them should be.

- Alecia Stringer

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As Holy

2 Timothy 2

Who Am I...

- A returning member of Berean for 1 year now and 3 years previously
- Daughter of Christ since 2015
- Wife of Rick Stringer for 13 yrs. US Army spouse for 13 yrs
- From New Orleans, Louisiana; Rick and I met in college
- Mother of 4: Emily (11), Lucas (10), Kennedy (6), Michael (3)
- Homeschooler since 2021
- Recovering animal hoarder/homesteader



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Raw Truth...

- My thoughts - hypocrite, unqualified, phony!
- The Holy Spirit said.. That's exactly WHY!
- I AM failing.
- I often justified my anger as righteous anger.
- When I wasn't angry I was being a peace keeper.

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C.O.M.A

Context-

What is the background information of this passage?

Observation-

What does this passage say, what stands out to you?

Meaning -

How should this passage be rightly understood?

Application-

How should I live out this passage?

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Intro to Matthew 5 - Context

- Jesus comes out of the wilderness.
- Begins His ministry
- Sermon on the Mount
- New covenant explained
- 600+ laws VS ONE law
- Outward good behavior VS inwardly submissive hearts

Observation - What is a peace KEEPER?

- Avoidant
- Manipulative
- Spiteful
- Passive-aggressive
- Selfish

Being a peaceKEEPER often looks loving... But looks can be deceiving.

Meaning - What is a peace MAKER?

- Mat. 5:3 - BE Humble
- Mat. 5:7 - BE Merciful
- Mat. 5:8 - BE Pure of heart - Heb. 12:14
- Mat. 5:9 - BE the peaceMAKER - James 3:18, Mat. 18:15-17, Mat. 18:21-22
- Mat. 5:13-16 - BE the Salt and the Light - Jam. 1:19-21
- Mat. 5:39 - Do not be revengeful - 1Pet. 2:21-23
- Mat. 5:48 - BE HOLY

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2 TIMOTHY 2:24-26

And the Lord's servant must **not be quarrelsome but kind to everyone, able to teach, patiently enduring evil, correcting his opponents with gentleness.** God may perhaps grant them repentance leading to a knowledge of the truth, and they may come to their senses and escape from the snare of the devil, after being captured by him to do his will.

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2 TIMOTHY 2:24-26

IF the Lord's servant **IS NOT** quarrelsome **BUT INSTEAD**, is **kind to everyone, able to teach, patiently enduring evil, correcting his opponents with gentleness. THEN** God **MAY** perhaps **USE THAT** to grant them repentance leading to a knowledge of the truth, and they may come to their senses and escape from the snare of the devil, after being captured by him to do his will.

THAT IS THE GOAL!!

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Ephesians 6:12

For we are not fighting against flesh-and-blood enemies, but against evil rulers and authorities of the unseen world, against mighty powers in this dark world, and against evil spirits in the heavenly places.

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PEACE KEEPER *vs.* PEACE MAKER



PEACE KEEPER

Avoids conflict

Stays quiet to keep the peace

Protects own comfort

Hides or suppresses feelings

Focuses on others' opinions

Values being liked

Short-term peace

Leaves issues unresolved

PEACE MAKER

Addresses conflict with love

Speaks up to pursue peace

Pursues what is right

Communicates honestly and kindly

Seeks God's perspective

Values relationships and truth

Long-term healing and unity

Seeks real resolution and restoration

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Application - Real Life Scenarios From You

- Let's take 10 minutes to make this real
- Reminder about recording - no names OR they can cut this out of the recording!!
- Who have you recently had/or have conflict with?
- What is the conflict?
- How did you handle it? Have you addressed it at all?
- How would you handle it now? - Let's all problem solve together!

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