

BBCB Bible Study Notes
From the Series: Peacemakers
July 5, 2020

How can I please and honor God as I deal with conflict in my life?

1. Realize how much God values peace.

- Peace is an aspect of God's character. (Romans 15:33, 2 Cor. 13:11, Phil. 4:9)
- Peace is evidence of God's blessing. (Numbers 6:24-26, Psalm 29:11)
- Peace is the goal of Christ's mission. (Romans 5:1-2, Colossians 1:19-20)

2. Trust God with the outcome of your situation by believing that:

- God is sovereign (Acts 2:22-24, Psalm 86:10, Isaiah 46:9-10)
- God is good (Psalm 25:8-9, Psalm 34:8, Psalm 100:5, Lamentation 3:25)

3. Do what God says. (Isaiah 48:18, Col. 3:13-15, 1 Thess. 5:13b-15)

BBCB Verse of the Week: *"The Lord's unfailing love surrounds the one who trusts in Him." Psalm 32:10b NIV*

BBCC Devotional Guide for July 5 -11, 2020

Sunday: God wants to make us instruments of peace in a world filled with conflict and we will carry out this mission more effectively if we understand why God values peace so much. One of the reasons God values peace is that peace is an essential aspect of his character. 2 Corinthians 13:11 says, *‘Finally, brothers and sisters, rejoice! Strive for full restoration, encourage one another, be of one mind, live in peace. And the God of love and peace will be with you.’* Being aware of God’s presence promotes peace in our relationships as we rely on Him for what we need to deal with conflict. Thank God today that He is always with you and talk to Him throughout the day.

Monday: Another way we know how much God values peace is that peace is evidence of God’s blessing. Numbers 6:22-26 says, *“The Lord said to Moses, ‘Tell Aaron and his sons, this is how you are to bless the Israelites. Say to them, ‘The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you; the Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace.’”* Psalm 29:11 says, *“The Lord gives strength to his people, the Lord blesses his people with peace.”* When we worship God, even when worship is online, we have the opportunity to experience His peace. How does worshipping God lead to peace?

Tuesday: One more way that we know how much peace matters to God is that peace is the goal of Christ’s mission. Romans 5:1 says, *“Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we^[a] have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.”* Jesus suffered, died and rose from the dead in order to reconcile us to God and to each other. The Bible is clear that peace in the church is very important to God and that unresolved conflict in the church grieves Him. Ask God today to help you value peace for the same reasons He does.

Wednesday: In order to experience peace in the middle of conflict we need to trust God with the outcome. Proverbs 3:5-6 says, *“Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.”* We read this in Psalm 27:3, *“Though an army besiege me, my heart will not fear; though war break out against me, even then I will be confident.”* When you are involved in conflict what fears might you have? I encourage you to give your fears to God and trust him with all your heart.

Thursday: In order to trust God with the outcome of conflict we must believe that He is sovereign over all the events of our lives. In Acts 2:23-24 we read this about what happened to Jesus, *“This man was handed over to you by God’s deliberate plan and foreknowledge; and you, with the help of wicked men,^[a] put him to death by nailing him to the cross. But God raised him from the dead, freeing him from the agony of death, because it was impossible for death to keep its hold on him.”* The death and resurrection of Jesus Christ is a powerful story of God’s control over all the events in the life of His Son. God is sovereign over the pain, injustice and suffering in our lives

as well. How does a firm belief in God's sovereignty influence our attitudes and actions when we face times of conflict?

Friday: In order to trust God in the middle of conflict we need to believe not only that He is sovereign but also that He is good. Psalm 25:8-9 says, *"Good and upright is the Lord; therefore he instructs sinners in his ways. He guides the humble in what is right and teaches them his way."* Because God is good he cares deeply about you and wants to use conflict in your life to help you become more like Jesus. Ask God today to use conflict in your life to develop your character.

Saturday: In order to honor God and please him when we face conflict, we must do what He says. Colossians 3:12-15 says, *"Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. Over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity. Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace."* Which of these commands do you need to obey today?