

Be a Peacemaker

You may be tired of brokering peace deals within your family, but Jesus calls peacemakers blessed! Sometimes we simply need better strategies on how to be a peacemaker in the home, community, and world.

Examples of how to be a peacemaker from great peacemakers

- Fred Rogers accepted others. We can be accepting even when we disagree with the person's beliefs and peacefully share our beliefs. It is not the same as condoning sin.
- Conrad Weiser, negotiator between Native Americans and Early settlers. Take time to first understand the other person(s) and their hopes, and then talk through problems with the goal of unity.
- Gladys Alward, a missionary to China, used kindness and generosity in baking cookies for children, and then helped stop a prison uprising by listening and offering suggestions.
- Prince Albert intentionally brought people together to share inventions and ideas, in a peaceful setting.
- Corrie Ten Boom showed the world that forgiveness brings peace within your heart and with others.
- Horatio after the tragic loss of all his children, continued to trust God, looked to eternity, and wrote the hymn *It is Well with My Soul*.
- John Stanley Graul spoke up for people who needed help. He lived among the Jews trying to find refuge during WW2 and when the opportunity arose he shared the truth of the plight of the Jews with the world through the media.
- Todd Beamer, on 9/11, as a passenger on flight 93, gave his life to stop terrorists from hitting their target.
- Johnny Ring prayer and read his Bible daily in spite of his commanding officer's bullying, stayed faithful to his duty in giving his life to save the captain's sword. His life brought the captain to faith and changed him from persecuting Christians to evangelizing unbelievers.



Read more about each of these historic people.

<https://www.crosswalk.com/family/parenting/lessons-from-9-great-peacemakers-to-teach-children.html>

More tips to being a peacemaker

- Pray
- Listen to the person speaking. Try to identify their pain point and biggest desire.
- Respect the speaker. God's image is in them too, so respect shows you respect God.
- Show compassion for the pain and suffering of others.
- Spy out good in people and compliment them on it.
- Plant seeds of love with words and actions. Know each seed may take time to sprout, grow, and feed the person's soul.
- 1 Corinthians 13:4 reminds us that love never counts wrongs suffered. So continue to forgive, but place yourself in a safe place.
- Let the cross be a peace symbol. Pray upward from you to God, and reach outward to serve.



10 Ways to Share Peace in Your Community From Melissa Henderson

<http://www.melissaghenderson.com>

Sharing peace in your community can help others develop and strengthen a relationship with God. Simple acts of kindness can bring peace into the world.

1. Begin the day by giving thanks to God. Thank Him for peaceful ways to interact with the community.
2. When sharing conversation, look at the person. This shows the speaker that you are truly listening.
3. Greet everyone with a smile. Your greeting may be the only smile a person receives that day.
4. When arguments arise, take time to breathe, pray, and seek guidance from God.
5. Listen and pray before speaking.
6. Show children how to share peace through your actions. Children are watching and will model your example.
7. Encourage others by responding to negativity with peaceful words.
8. Remember everyone experiences difficult times. Show compassion and love.
9. Volunteer in your community. Helping others can be a blessing to everyone.
10. End the day by giving thanks to God. Thank Him for His peace and mercy.



Wisdom

Stay safe and be alert.

Via phone, online, or in person there are people with malicious intentions who want to steal your property, identity, and more.

- If it sounds too good to be true it is probably a scam.
- If someone is trying to distract you they may be trying to steal from you.
- If they befriend you and then tell a tale of woe to get money, don't believe it. Check the story.

“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.” (Matthew 5:9 NIV)