

#### The Peacemaker\*

Conflict: "a difference in opinion or purpose that frustrates someone's goals or desires." (29)

	look at conflict. (22)
1. / 2. /	A that me. An to be conquered quickly no matter the
3. /	consequences.  An to solve problems in a way that honors God and benefits others.
The Slip	pery Slope of Conflict
Attack res For those relationsh	sponses. (Focus on) more interested in than ips.
Conflict a	s a
Opportun	ity to assert rights, take control of others, take advantage of others.
• I	Assault—Verbal, physical violence, etc. Always makes things  Litigation—Force people to bend to my will through the court system.  Murder—so desperate to, resort to violence.
Escape re For those	sponses. (Focus on) who would rather conflict than it.
<b>-</b> [	—temporary relief, will only make things worse. Flight— proper solution. Suicide—most severe / final attempt to escape.
- ( - i - i	ing responses. (Focus on)  Overlook an offense  Reconciliation  Negotiation  Mediation  Arbitration  Accountability
"A differe	Defined: nce in or that frustrates someone's or" (29)
Causes o	from poor communication. in values, goals, gifs, priorities, etc.

3.		over limited resources.	
4.	Sinful	and	
"Conflic	ct as opporto et is an opporto ians 10:31–11	unity to demonstrate the love and power of God in our lives." (See	
Glorif	ying God		
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Practice	al ways we car	ı glorify God	
1.		him. (Proverbs 3:5–6)	
	2 him. (Matthew 5:16; John 17:4)		
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#### Chapter 1: "Conflict Provides Opportunities"\*

## **Glorifying God**

Defined To glorify God is to "bring him praise and honor by showing he is, what he is, and what he is" (31)			
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The Four G's of Peacemaking			
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
Wisdom is about  "Having wisdom does not mean that you understand all of God's ways; it means that you respond to life God's way (Deuteronomy 29:29)" (39)			
Chapter 2: "Live at Peace"			
Three dimensions of peace God offers through Christ.  Peace with (Colossians 1:19–20; Romans 5:1–2)  Peace with (Ephesians 2:11–18; Psalm 133:1; Romans 12:18; Matthew 22:39)  Peace within (1 John 3:21–24)			
Internal peace is a of righteousness. (Isaiah 26:3; 32:17; 48:18)			
Jesus' depends on unity.  Peace in our relationships is an "essential element of your Christian witness." (Matthew 5:9; John 17:20–23; John 13:34–35; 1 Peter 2:12)			
You must be at peace with others before you can (Matthew 5:21–24; 1 John 4:19–21)			
<ul> <li>Enemies of Peace</li> <li>Greed and dishonesty. (Acts 5:3)</li> <li>Deception from Satan (2 Timothy 2:25–26)</li> </ul>			

- Unresolved anger. (Ephesians 4:26–27) False teachers promoting wrong values that encourage selfishness and stimulate controversy. (1 Timothy 4:1–3)

To combat Satan's opposition to peace, we must resist the devil. (John 4:7, 1 Peter 5:9; Ephesians 6:12)
We must be ready to in our peacemaking. (Ephesians 4:1–3
The church and the court  Reasons to resolve conflict in church rather than the court

Litigation	Biblical Peacemaking
Usually tensions and often relationships.	Encourages and
Doesn't deal with the underlying of the conflict.  It tends to lead people to be and promote what they have done right.	Points people to Christ to solve the
Limited in the it promotes.	Can promote true
Threatens the witness for Christ.	Preserves the witness for Christ.

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Chapter 3: Trust in the Lord and Do Good

The mo	ro obedience re and better you God, the easier it is to Him. The more you _ Him, the easier it is to
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God's	sovereignty
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"Nothing in our lives happens by \_\_\_\_\_\_." (62)

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Examples of trusting the sovereign God: Jesus. (Matthew 26:42; Luke 23:46; 1 Peter 2:23)
Paul. (2 Timothy 1:12)
<ul> <li>Understanding the role of God's sovereignty in unjust or painful events.</li> <li>God is never the of sin. (James 1:13–14; 1 John 1:5)</li> <li>God never takes in what is hurtful. (Ezekiel 33:11)</li> <li>Allowing evil is not the same as causing it. (Acts 2:23)</li> <li>At the right time, God administers on the wicked. (Proverbs 16:4–5; Psalm 33:10–11)</li> <li>Sovereignty does not release us from for our actions. (Matthew 12:36; Romans 14:12)</li> </ul>

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# Chapter 3: "Trust in the Lord and Do Good"

#### Steps to obedience

The more and better you **know** God, the easier it is to **trust** Him. The more you **trust** Him, the easier it is to **obey**. Know  $\Rightarrow$  Trust  $\Rightarrow$  Obey.

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"To be sovereign means to be supreme, unlimited, and totally independent of any other influence." (60) God alone has this power. (Psalm 86:10; Isaiah 46:9–10)
"The sovereignty of God, simply stated, refers to his authority and rule over aspect of His creation. God is the unrivaled King of all." (Layton Talbert, <i>Not By Chance</i> , loc 211)
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<b>God's goodness</b> God's goodness does not mean that he will insulate us from all suffering. Rather it mean that he will be with us our suffering and accomplish through it. (Isaiah 43:2–3)
<ul> <li>Ways God uses trials (and is good)</li> <li>To bring to himself by displaying His goodness, power, and faithfulness. (John 9:1–5; 11:1–4; 1 Peter 1:6–7)</li> <li>To teach us how to to others while they are suffering. (2 Corinthians 1:3–5)</li> <li>To teach us to more on Him. (2 Corinthians 1:9; 12:7–10)</li> </ul>

<ul> <li>When it is a result of our sin, He is showing us our need for</li> <li></li></ul>
• To us to the image of Christ. (Romans 8:28–29).
What does it mean to "trust God"? "Trusting God means that in spite of our questions, doubts, and fears we draw on his grace and continue to believe that he is, that he is in, and that he is always working for our" (65)
Examples of people in the Bible who trusted God's goodness: Job (Job 42:2–3); Joseph (Genesis 50:19–21); David (Psalm 37); Peter (Acts 4:24, 27–29); Paul (Acts 16:25).
Chapter 4: "Is This Really Worth Fighting Over?"
God does not correction.  Matthew 7:1–5 does not forbid lovingly correcting our brothers and sisters; it forbids "premature and improper correction." (79)
Issues that form conflicts  1) issues; solved with cooperation and negotiation. 2) issues; solved by overlooking or the process of confession / correction / forgiveness.
Overlooking minor offenses  Often the best tactic when sinned against is to overlook this offense against you. (Proverb 19:11; 17:14; 1 Peter 4:8; Ephesians 4:2; Colossians 3:13)
<ul> <li>Two conditions:</li> <li>Should not create a between you and the other person.</li> <li>Should not be causing serious to God's reputation, to others, or to the offender.</li> </ul>
Overlooking sin is not  "To truly overlook an offense means to deliberately decide not to talk about it, dwell on i or let it grow into pent-up bitterness." (83)

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Steps (principles) to help change your attitude. (Philippians 4:2–9)  1) in the Lord always.  2) Let your be known to all. (cf. Galatians 6:1–2)  3) Replace with  4) See things as they really (cf. Proverbs 11:27)  5) Practice what you've learned.
Count the of conflict. (Matthew 5:26-27)
Remember God's when demanding our (Luke 6:36) "When exercising a right allows you to avoid a moral responsibility or to take unfair advantage of others, you have not acted justly in the eyes of God, regardless of what a court might say." (92)
<ul> <li>Biblical examples of those who gave up rights.</li> <li>Abraham (Genesis 13:5–12)</li> <li>Joseph (Genesis 50:19–21)</li> <li>David (2 Samuel 16:5–12)</li> <li>Paul (1 Corinthians 9:3–15)</li> <li>Jesus (Matthew 17:24–27; 26:53–54)</li> </ul>

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Examples of appropriate assertion of personal rights.

- Paul asserted rights as a Roman citizen and asked for civil authorities to apologize for mistreating him. (Acts 16:35–39)
- Paul quickly asserted his rights to avoid flogging and secure an appeal. (Acts 22:25–29; 25:11)

When to give up rights or assert rights?			
Rights are really	given by God to be used for glory and to		
others. We must	these rights to honor		
We should never twis	st this to our		



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	Sinful judging is marked by feelings of:
The root of conflict.  Our hearts are the of our thoughts. (Jam 4:1–3; Prov 4:23)  The root cause of conflict is " in our hearts." (102)  A change in circumstances will cure conflict because the source for conflict is not	<ul> <li>Indignation.</li> <li>Condemnation.</li> <li>Resentment.</li> </ul>
The progression of an idol.	Sinful judging often involves speculating about the of others.  Sinful judging involves an absence of genuine
"I"	
Options when you do not get what you desire:  • Trust God and seek in Him. (Ps 73:25)	"I"  "Idols always demand sacrificesWhen someone fails to satisfy our demands and expectations, our idol demands he should" (108)
<ul> <li>Ask God to help you grow no matter what the other person does.</li> <li>(Jam 1:2-4)</li> </ul>	Overcoming Idols
<ul> <li>Continue to that person, waiting for God to open the door for progress at a later time. (1 John 4:19–21; Luke 6:27)</li> <li>If you take this course, God will bless you and make you more like Christ. (Rom 8:28–29)</li> <li>Keep fighting to achieve desire; dwell on disappointment; allow the other person to control our lives.</li> <li>"I"</li> <li>Demand comes from the belief that we something.</li> <li>When we see our unmet desires as something we need or and therefore have so we will be fulfilled or happy, we begin to others meet these desires.</li> </ul>	Three vehicles of God's grace to overcome idols. (110–111)  His
"An idol is anything apart from God that we depend on to be happy, fulfilled, or secure Idols can arise from good desires as well as wicked desires. It is often not what we want that is the problem, but that we want it too much." (104)	<ul> <li>Describe your idols to a spouse or accountability partner and ask them to approach you if and when they see it in your life.</li> <li>Realize that idols might disguise themselves or change.</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>X-Ray Questions to reveal idols of your heart. (105)</li> <li>What am I preoccupied with?</li> <li>How would I answer: "If only, then I would be happy."</li> <li>What do I want to preserve or avoid at all costs?</li> <li>Where do I put my trust?</li> <li>What do I fear?</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Ask spiritually mature helpers to identify hard to see idols.</li> <li>Ask God to replace your idols with a growing for Him.</li> <li>Replace idol worship with true worship. (112–114)</li> <li> before God. (1 John 1:8–10; Ps 51:17)</li> <li> God. (Prov 1:7; Matt 10:28; Ps 130:3–4)</li> <li> God. (Matt 22:37)</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>When a desire is not met, am I frustrated, anxious, resentful, bitter, angry, or depressed?</li> <li>Do I want something so bad I am willing to disappoint or hurt someone to get it?</li> <li>How can I tell what motives rule my heart?</li> </ul>	• God. (Ps 118:8; 37:5–6) • in God. (Ps 37:4; Phil 4:4; 1 Thess 5:16–18)

How do I when my desires are not being met?
How do I when my desires are not being met?
"I"
Sinful judging is marked by feelings of:
<ul><li>Indignation.</li><li>Condemnation.</li></ul>
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Overcoming Idols
Three vehicles of God's grace to overcome idols. (110–111)
• His (Heb 4:12)
• His (1 Cor 2:10–15; Phil 2:13)
• His (Gal 6:1; Rom 15:14)
Practical steps to identifying and overcoming idols. (111–112)

<sup>\*</sup> Sande, Ken. The Peacemaker: A Biblical Guide to Resolving Personal Conflict. 3rd ed. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books, 2004.



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The pr	rogression of an idol.
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	dol is anything apart from God that we depend on to be happy, fulfilled, or secure in arise from good desires as well as wicked desires. It is often not what we want that is the problem, but that we want it too much." (104)
X-Ray C	Questions to reveal idols of your heart. (105)
• • • • •	What am I preoccupied with? How would I answer: "If only, then I would be happy." What do I want to preserve or avoid at all costs? Where do I put my trust? What do I fear? When a desire is not met, am I frustrated, anxious, resentful, bitter, angry, or depressed? Do I want something so bad I am willing to disappoint or hurt someone to get it? In I tell what motives rule my heart?
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•	How do I when my desires are not being met?  How do I when my desires are not being met?
<b>#</b> T	
	judging is marked by feelings of:
•	
•	Indignation. Condemnation.
•	Resentment.
Sinful	judging often involves speculating about the of others.
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Over	coming Idols
Three • •	vehicles of God's grace to overcome idols. (110–111)         His (Heb 4:12)         His (1 Cor 2:10–15; Phil 2:13)         His (Gal 6:1; Rom 15:14)
Practi	When in a conflict, work backwards to identify the that are controlling you. How am I punishing? How am I judging? Prayerfully ask yourself the X-Ray Questions.  Keep track of your discoveries to identify Go after specific idols Pray God would remove the idol's in your life by making your miserable when you give in to it.  Describe your idols to a spouse or accountability partner and ask them to approach you if and when they see it in your life.  Realize that idols might disguise themselves or change.  Ask spiritually mature helpers to identify hard to see idols.  Ask God to replace your idols with a growing for Him.
Repla • • • •	ce idol worship with true worship. (112–114)



## Chapter 5: "Conflict Starts in the Heart"\*

#### Oversoming Idels

	Elements of repentance. (118)
the way we think. "coming to our" (Luke 15:17)	<ul> <li>A from God. (2 Tim 2:24–26)</li> <li>To the way we think.</li> <li>Sometimes described as "coming to our" (L</li> <li>Remorse vs. repentance (See 2 Corinthians 7:9–11). (118–119)</li> <li>"Worldly Sorrow" "Godly Sorrow"</li> </ul>
Sad because you have offendedSincerely regretting you did morally wrong whether or not you suffer consequences.  Involves a of — possible when you see sin as an offense again God. (2 Chron 6:37–39).	Sad you were Sad because you have offended doing wrong.  Sad because you must suffer  Because thinking doesn't change, the sinner's grief / bad feelings eventually wear off and he will to his behavior with the goal of not getting caught again.  Sad because you have offended when you suffer conservations of of possible when you see sin as an God. (2 Chron 6:37–39).  Not always accompanied by integrating caught again.
onfession: (126)  done a better job." fault."	<ul> <li>Token statements that are not confession: (126)</li> <li>"I'm sorry if I hurt you."</li> <li>"Let's just forget the past."</li> <li>"I suppose I could have done a better job."</li> <li>"I guess it's not all your fault."</li> <li>"I'm sorry you took it that way."</li> </ul>
veryone involved.	The Seven A's of Confession. (126–133)  1 everyone involved. 2 "if" "but" and "maybe."
pecifically. (Luke 15:21) ne hurt.	3 specifically. (Luke 15:21) 4 the hurt.
our behavior.	<ul> <li>5 the consequences. (Luke 15:19; 19:1</li> <li>6 your behavior.</li> <li>7 for forgiveness (and</li> </ul>
Э	6yo

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## Chapter 5: "Conflict Starts in the Heart"\*

Overcoming Idols	·	•
<ul> <li>Three vehicles of God's grace to overcome idols. (110–111)</li> <li>His (Heb 4:12)</li> <li>His (1 Cor 2:10–15; Phil 2:13)</li> <li>His (Gal 6:1; Rom 15:14)</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Elements of repentance. (118)</li> <li>A from C</li> <li>To from C</li> <li>Sometimes described as "</li> </ul>	God. (2 Tim 2:24–26) he way we think. coming to our" (Luk
<ul> <li>When in a conflict, work backwards to identify the that are controlling you. How am I punishing? How am I judging?</li> <li>Prayerfully ask yourself the X-Ray Questions.</li> <li>Keep track of your discoveries to identify Go after specific idols.</li> <li>Pray God would remove the idol's in your life by making you miserable when you give in to it.</li> <li>Describe your idols to a spouse or accountability partner and ask them to approach you if and when they see it in your life.</li> <li>Realize that idols might disguise themselves or change.</li> <li>Ask spiritually mature helpers to identify hard to see idols.</li> <li>Ask God to replace your idols with a growing for Him.</li> <li>Replace idol worship with true worship. (112–114)</li> <li> before God. (1 John 1:8–10; Ps 51:17)</li> <li> God. (Prov 1:7; Matt 10:28; Ps 130:3–4)</li> <li> God. (Matt 22:37)</li> <li> God. (Ps 118:8; 37:5–6)</li> <li> God. (Ps 37:4; Phil 4:4; 1 Thess 5:16–18)</li> </ul>	Remorse vs. repentance (See 2 Co "Worldly Sorrow"  Sad you were doing wrong.  Sad because you must suffer  Because thinking doesn't change, the sinner's grief / bad feelings eventually wear off and he will to his behavior with the goal of not getting caught again.  Token statements that are not come in the company of the company of the past.  It is uppose I could have do	"Godly Sorrow"  Sad because you have offended  Sincerely regretting you did morall whether or not you suffer consequently likely and the same of
Chapter 6: "Confession Brings Freedom"  "He who covers his sins will not prosper, But whoever confesses and forsakes them will have	<ul><li>"I guess it's not all your fault."</li><li>"I'm sorry you took it that way."</li></ul>	
mercy." Proverbs 28:13 (NKJV)  The drives reconciliation. (117)  The gospel in John 3:16 reveals 1) our radical and 2) the radical of God that Jesus would die for our sins.	The Seven A's of Confession.  1ev 2"if 3sp	eryone involved. " "but" and "maybe."
Two things happen when recognize this:  are stripped away. No self-righteousness; find freedom through admitting wrongdoing.  Do everything we can to repair harm we have caused and be	4 the 5 the 6 yo	e hurt. e consequences. (Luke 15:19; 19:18)

The restoration process involv	ves: (118)
•	·
•	
•	
Elements of repentance. (118)	
• A from C	God. (2 Tim 2:24–26)
• Tot	
<ul> <li>Sometimes described as "e</li> </ul>	coming to our" (Luke 15:17)
Remorse vs. repentance (See 2 Con	rinthians 7:9–11). (118–119)
"Worldly Sorrow"	"Godly Sorrow"
Sad you were	Sad because you have offended
doing wrong.	
Sad because you must suffer	Sincerely regretting you did morally wrong whether or not you suffer consequences.
Because thinking doesn't change, the sinner's grief / bad feelings eventually wear off and	Involves a of — possible when you see sin as an offense against God. (2 Chron 6:37–39).
he will to his behavior with the goal of not getting caught again.	Not always accompanied by intense; implies a change of thinking which should lead to a change in
	behavior.
Token statements that are <b>not</b> con	ıfession: (126)
<ul><li>"I'm sorry if I hurt you."</li></ul>	
<ul> <li>"Let's just forget the past."</li> </ul>	,
<ul> <li>"I suppose I could have de</li> </ul>	
<ul> <li>"I guess it's not all your fa</li> </ul>	
<ul> <li>"I'm sorry you took it that</li> </ul>	way."
The Seven A's of Confession.	
1eve	
2 "if"	"hut" and "maybe"

for forgiveness (and \_\_\_\_\_\_ time).

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# Chapter 6: "Confession Brings Freedom"\*

Remorse vs. repentance (See 2 Corinthians 7:9–11). (118–119)
"Worldly Sorrow" "Godly Sorrow"

vvoridiy Sorrow	Goaly Sorrow
Sad you were	Sad because you have offended
doing wrong.	
Sad because you must suffer	Sincerely regretting you did morally wrong whether or not you suffer consequences.
Because thinking doesn't change, the sinner's grief / bad feelings eventually wear off and	Involves a of — possible when you see sin as an offense against God. (2 Chron 6:37–39).
he will to his behavior with the goal of not	Not always accompanied by intense
getting caught again.	; implies a change of thinking which should lead to a change in behavior.
<ul> <li>Token statements that are not con</li> <li>"I'm sorry if I hurt you."</li> <li>"Let's just forget the past."</li> <li>"I suppose I could have do</li> <li>"I guess it's not all your fa</li> <li>"I'm sorry you took it that</li> </ul>	one a better job." ult."
The Seven A's of Confession.	(126–133)
1 eve	
2"if"	"but" and "maybe."
3spe	ecifically. (Luke 15:21)
4 the	hurt.
5 the	consequences. (Luke 15:19; 19:18)
6you	ur behavior.
7 for	forgiveness (and time).
Why confess?	

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# Chapter 7: Just Between the Two of You\*

Confronting sin does not give license to be a  "Anyone who is eager to go and show a brother his sin is probably disqualified from doing so." (153)
<ul> <li>Excuses people use to avoid confrontation. (153–154)</li> <li>Misunderstanding Matt 7:1 ("Judge not," right?)</li> <li>Misunderstanding Matt 5:39 ("Turn the other cheek," right?)</li> <li>"Who am I to tell someone what to do? (Rom 15:14)</li> <li>"Isn't it God's job to show people where they are wrong?" (2 Tim 2:24–26)</li> </ul>
Restoring work is (Galatians 6:1) (154–155)  • "Overtaken"—paralambano, "caught, surprised, entangled."  • "Restore"—katarizo, to "mend, repair, equip, complete, repair"—like fishermer mending their nets.
Special considerations concerning confrontation. (155–158)
<ul> <li>Going to non-Christians:</li> <li>Going to a person in authority. (1 Timothy 5:19–20):</li> <li>Dealing with abuse.</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Dealing with abuse.</li> <li>Go tentatively and Many offenses are the result of the doubt.</li> </ul>
Possible actions after "get the log out of your own eye." (158–159)  • the offense.
<ul> <li>on the other's superficial confession.</li> <li>You may need to talk about the other person's sin now.</li> <li>You may confrontation until another time.</li> </ul>
Chapter 8: Speak the Truth in Love
Ephesians 4:14–15 (NKJV)  14 that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting, 15 but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head—Christ—
<b>Bring hope through the gospel.</b> "Rather than dwelling on what people should do or have failed to do focus primarily on what God has done and is doing for them through Christ." (163)
Be quick to listen. (James 1:19) Why? (165)
1) It improvs your ability to others. 2) It shows you realize you do not have all the

3)	It tells the other person you value his opinion—demonstratingeven if you do not agree.
Importa •	even if you do not agree.  Int listening skills to develop.  Waiting (Prov 18:13).  Don't to conclusions.  Be comfortable with  Don't offer solutions.  Attending.  The mind works faster than you can talk. Don't get distracted!  Maintain eye contact.  Avoid negative body language.
•	o Eliminate  Clarifying questions. Show interest; encourage openness.  Reflecting. Paraphrasing; summarizing with content and feelings.  Agreeing. Especially important if you are wrong. (Prov 15:31).
The to	Breathe
•	Use the Bible
Ron	Kraybill: "Effective confrontation is like a graceful dance from supportiveness to assertiveness and back again."

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