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FORGIVING:

**"KNOWING WHEN & HOW TO
CONFRONT OTHERS"**

REVIEW

- **Preliminary: Always consider your own sin before anything else; and to be quick to ask forgiveness. (Mt. 7:1-4; Mt. 5:23 ff.)**
- **If you are the one sinned against, your first step is to have an attitude of benevolence and a readiness to forgive toward the other - even if they do not seek forgiveness. (Mark 11:25; Mt. 5:44-45; Lk. 23:34)**

REVIEW

- **An attitude of forgiveness means that you:**
 - ❖ **Pray for the spiritual good of your offender**
 - ❖ **Do not seek or wish revenge**
 - ❖ **Do good to your offender as you have opportunity**
 - ❖ **Refuse to hold bitterness or bitter thoughts**

REVIEW

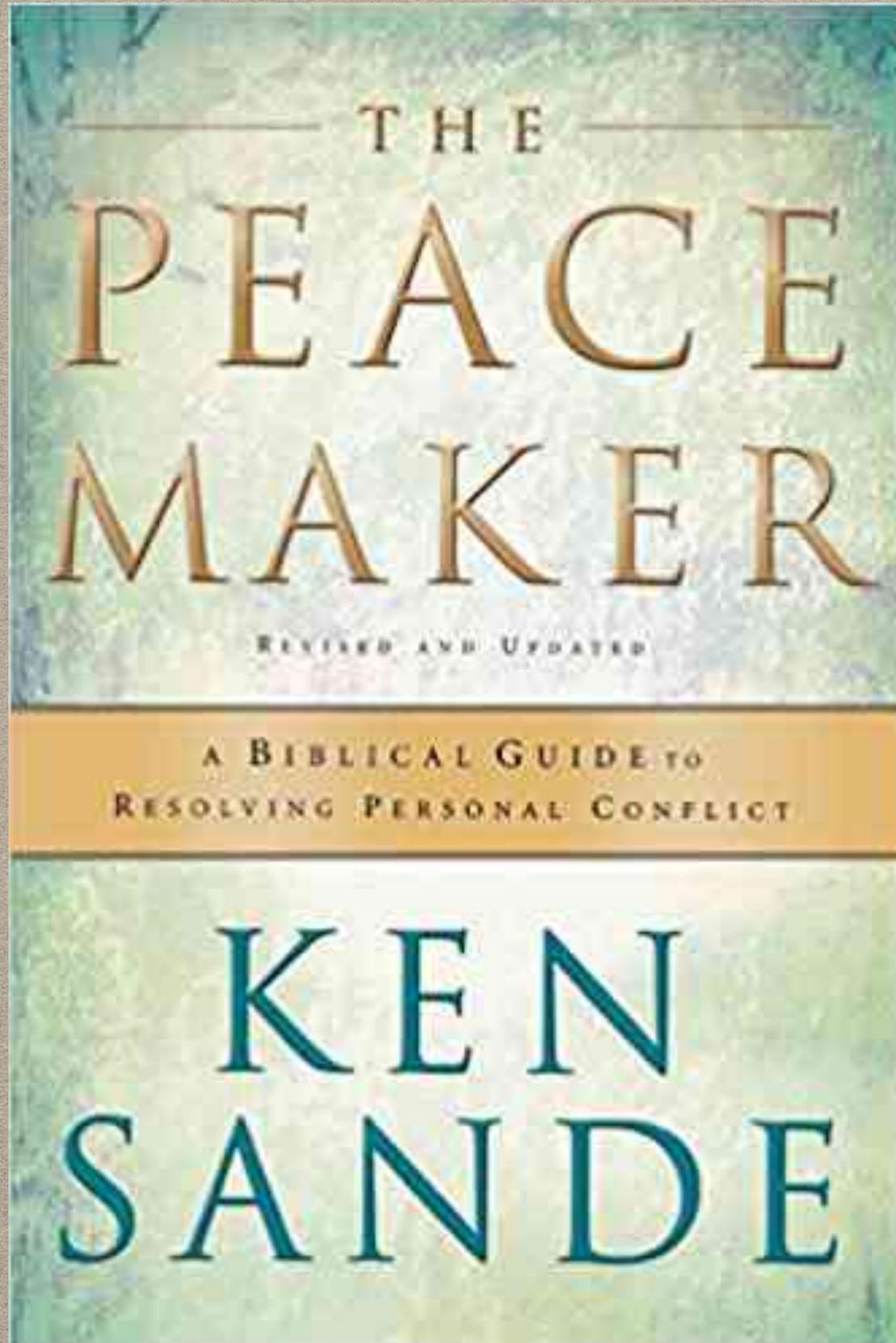
- ***First stage*** - readiness to forgive and refusal to hold bitterness
- ***Second stage*** - deciding whether to confront another over sinning against you; seeking repentance
- ***Third stage*** - reconciliation
- ***Fourth stage*** - restoration & restitution

Q: If I am sinned against, must I always confront the offender?

- **Genesis 26:17 ff - Isaac and the wells of water**
- **Proverbs 19:11 (NKJV): "The discretion of a man makes him slow to anger, and his glory is to overlook a transgression."**
- **Proverbs 20:3 (NKJV): "It is honorable for a man to stop striving, since any fool can start a quarrel."**
- **Acts 17:30 (NKJV): "Truly, these times of ignorance God overlooked, but now commands all men everywhere to repent...."**

Q: If I am sinned against, must I always confront the offender?

- **Is this offense a clear, Biblical sin?**
- **Has this offense created a permanent wall between the two of you that cannot be overlooked?**
- **What do you hope to gain? Will confronting spiritually help the offender? Is it worth it?**
- **Has this offense harmed the reputation of God, Christianity, or the church?**



***“The
Peace
Maker”***

by

**Ken
Sande**

LUKE 17:1-4

- **Luke 17:1-4 (NKJV):** Then He said to the disciples, "It is impossible that no **offenses** should come, but woe to him through whom they do come! 2 It would be better for him if a millstone were hung around his neck, and he were thrown into the sea, than that he should offend one of these little ones. 3 Take heed to yourselves. If your brother **sins against** you, **rebuke** him; and if he **repents**, forgive him. 4 And if he sins against you seven times in a day, and seven times in a day returns to you, **saying, 'I repent,'** you shall forgive him."

DEFINITIONS

- **"Offense" - "sins against"**
- **"Rebuke"**
- **"Repents"**

"REPENTANCE"

- **How do we correlate the idea of repentance with "seven times in a day"? Would we say that this was repentance?**
- **Does repentance have to be proven with action before we forgive?**
- **Do not confuse incipient repentance with the fruit of repentance.**

APPLICATIONS

- **Not every sin against us requires a rebuke**
- **What is our purpose: to make us feel better, or to help the other person and the cause of God?**
- **What is God's requirement of us regarding repentance?**
- **What does this tell us about God's forgiveness?**