

God's Design for Conflict

- 1. Conflict is inevitable because of sin.*
- 2. Conflict is an opportunity to grow and change because of the gospel.*



God's Design for Conflict

1. Root of Conflict – James 4:1-5

2. Remedy for Conflict – James 4:6-10



God's Design for Conflict

1. Root of Conflict – James 4:1-5

The root of conflict is sin, expressed in selfishness.



God's Design for Conflict

- **Comfort** – We want to work on our terms and our schedule.
- **Pleasure** – We want to avoid pain and what is hard.
- **Recognition** – We fear being overlooked and unappreciated.
- **Power** – We fear being told what to do or unable to do what we want.
- **Control** – We want predictability and order.
- **Acceptance** – We fear being rejected or unseen.



God's Design for Conflict

2. *Remedy for Conflict – James 4:6-10*

The remedy for sin is grace, expressed in the cross.



God's Design for Conflict

3. Real Steps to Take in Conflict

God calls us to be peaceable and to be peacemakers.

- "If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all." – Romans 12:18
- "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God" – Matthew 5:9



God's Design for Conflict

3. Real Steps to Take in Conflict

1. Identify what drives ungodly conflict in your life
2. Recognize your default strategy in conflict
3. Commit to going to God with your conflict
4. Consider the other person
5. Keep short accounts
6. Be intentional in resolving conflict



God's Design for Conflict

Be intentional in resolving conflict

- Own your own sin
- Ask yourself, "Can love cover this offense?"
- Seek restoration
- Work to change
- Get help if needed

