
The mission of Genesis is to prepare humble hearts to begin again. Our vision is to empower our graduates to fulfill God-sized dreams according to his purpose.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course explores the biblical approach to resolving personal and church conflict. Students are shown that conflict is an opportunity for spiritual growth while learning how to dissipate anger, improve understanding and promote justice. Particular attention is given to the principles of restoration and biblical reconciliation.

I. Prerequisites

None

II. Measurable Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, you will be able to:

- Recite from memory: 1 Corinthians 10:31, Matthew 7:5, Galatians 6:1 and Matthew 5:24;
- Identify Paul's 5 steps to develop a proper attitude toward situations and toward other people;
- Identify the 5 conflict resolution principles as found in Matthew 18;
- Demonstrate a thorough understanding of biblical forgiveness;
- Explain the Four Gs of conflict resolution;
- Describe ways to glorify God amidst conflict;
- Critically assess the effectiveness of a book in the conflict management literature;
- Analyze and resolve personal conflict in your life;
- Create and apply an action plan to utilize conflict resolution strategies;
- Design a workshop to teach conflict resolution;
- Demonstrate to current or future employers your ability to create training workshops.

III. Required Resources

Course Book

Sande, Ken. The Peacemaker: A Biblical Guide to Resolving Personal Conflict. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 2004. Print.

IV. **Recommended Resources**

NOTE: You will need to select one of the following for your Book Critique (see section V Part C).

Church Conflict

- Kniskern, J. Warren. *Courting Disaster*. Nashville: Broadman and Holman, 1995.
- Martin, Frank. *War in the Pews*. Downers Grove, IL.: InterVarsity Press, 1995.
- Van Yperen, Jim. *Making Peace*. Chicago: Moody Press, 2002.

Marriage and Family Conflict

- Kniskern, J. Warren. *When the Vow Breaks*. Nashville: Broadman and Holman, 1995.
- Sande, Ken. *Peacemaking for Families*. Wheaton: Tyndale House Publishers, 2002.
- Talley, Jim. *Reconcilable Differences*. Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1985.

V. **Course Requirements and Assignments**

A. **Scripture Memorization**

You will memorize 1 Corinthians 10:31, Matthew 7:5, Galatians 6:1 and Matthew 5:24 in this course. God's Word is central to the life of every Christian, guiding and directing decisions, behaviors, values, and vision. Therefore, Genesis requires learners to memorize scripture throughout its degree programs. Invest time every day to hide God's Word in your heart.

This class explores the Four Gs of conflict resolution. Each of the Four Gs is based on scripture. The four verses you will memorize are the foundation for the Four Gs: Glorify God, Get the Log Out of Your Eye, Gently Restore, and Go and Be Reconciled.

B. **Learning Activities**

Abstracts

You are required to submit a three-paragraph abstract in Modules 1-4. The abstract will be created from the reading in the respective module. Each of the three paragraphs will represent one of the three chapters from the reading.

Responses to Questions

Each chapter has questions at the end. You will respond briefly to each question and submit your responses. Because the questions do not have “correct” answers, your grade will be based on the thoughtfulness of your replies (i.e. whether you appeared to put careful thought into each answer).

C. Book Critique

You will submit a critical evaluation of one of the books listed in section IV Recommended Resources. The Book Critique, which is due at the end of Module 3, must be a minimum of 1000 words and must conform to MLA standards. See “How to Write Book Critiques” in the *Genesis Writer’s Manual* for additional help.

D. Portfolio Project: Conflict Resolution Training Workshop

Each master’s course at Genesis College and Seminary requires students to create a project that contributes to his or her Ministry Portfolio. A Ministry Portfolio is a usable, functioning body of work which demonstrates a student’s leadership skills, knowledge, and abilities.

In this course, you will create a 90-minute workshop with the purpose of training participants to resolve conflict in a biblical way. The workshop will be based on Ken Sande’s “Four Gs:”

1. Glorify God (Module 1)
2. Get the log out of your eye (Module 2)
3. Gently restore (Module 3)
4. Go and be reconciled (Module 4)

Each of the first four modules of this course covers one of the Four Gs. At the conclusion of each of these modules, you will add material you learned to your project.

Requirements

Your Conflict Resolution Training Workshop will be a total of 6 parts: 4 presentation segments, 1 handout, and 1 survey. The presentation will be delivered using up to 48 “slides” (for use in PowerPoint or something similar; a handout with blank slides is provided as an example - you will create your slides on paper, not computer). The slide is what your participants will see while you speak. What you say for each slide will be written in the “Speaker’s Notes” area (see slide

handout for clarity). You need not write your script verbatim – just write enough to remind you what you will say.

You will also create a handout for participants to keep and an exit survey to help you critique and improve your workshop.

E. Final Exam

The Final Exam consists of material from the module presentations and assigned reading. The purpose of the exam is to measure your knowledge of course material.

A Final Exam Review is presented in Module 6 to help prepare you for the test. The exam will be administered after all 6 modules have been completed.

Remember: You will be required to write out your Scripture Memory Verses on the Final Exam.