

## REDEMPITIVE RELATIONSHIPS

Have you ever been judged, rejected, maybe even “ghosted” by *Christians*? By members and leaders from your own church? Was your childhood filled with neglect, abuse, and abandonment? Are you regularly called to interact with people who have serious mental illnesses, addictions, violent tendencies, and other destructive habitual sins that lead to huge violations of trust?

***“The guiding concept of responding redemptively deeply resonates with me.”***

**—Robert Kellemen**

In *Redemptive Relationships*, Tara unpacks Romans 12 (and other Scriptures) to encourage and equip you to redeem even the most hopeless, broken, and painful relationships in your life by remembering your:

- **DUTY** (*Romans 12:1*): In view of God’s mercies in Christ, we are bound by a different standard
- **DEPRAVITY** (*Romans 12:3*): We stop thinking of ourselves more highly than we ought
- **DESTINY** (*Romans 12:19*): Mindful of the just wrath of God, we never avenge ourselves

### BECOMING WHO YOU ALREADY ARE

Video Series with ASL Translation

Many aspects of the Christian life are a mystery. How do we “rest with confidence” and “battle with assurance”? What does it mean to press in to Christ with all of our affect (feelings), thinking, believing, energy, passion, and drive? In *Becoming Who You Are*, Tara helps your women to learn how to live with “logic on fire” (to use D. Martyn Lloyd-Jones’ term); laying hold of the present means of grace—all within redemptive community that testifies to the beauty, holiness, power, and love of God our Savior.

## RETREAT TOPICS

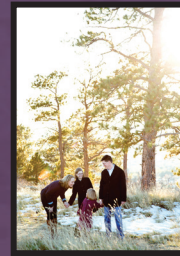
- Redemptive Relationships
- Titus 2 Today: Encouraging Sound Doctrine by Strengthening the Natural Tendencies of Pre-Teens and Teenagers to be Philosophers
- Fear Not!
- Wisely and Lovingly Responding to Sexual Assault Survivors
- Persevering with Grace When Our Leaders Let Us Down
- Biblical Hope for Miserable Christian Marriages
- Redeeming Church Conflicts (and Other Organizational Conflicts)
- Peacemaking Women: Biblical Hope for Peace with God, Others, and Within
- Ordering Our Disordered Affections
- Becoming Who You Already Are
- ... and more! (*Custom Topics Available*)

“Applies the truths of the Gospel.”

**—Bryan Chapell**

“A warm, biblical, and careful roadmap for navigating church crises.”

**—Megan Hill**



“Exactly what is needed in church conflict.”

**—Nancy Guthrie**

“Tara connects our struggles for peace to the Prince of Peace.”

**—Elyse Fitzpatrick**



Tara has served as a Christian mediator since 1997. Prior to leading the Institute for Christian Conciliation in Billings, Montana, Tara worked as an attorney and business consultant (JD/MBA) in Chicago. Currently a homemaker and Rhetoric teacher, Tara is pursuing her Master’s Degree in Theology from Reformed Theology Seminary, while occasionally accepting Christian conciliation cases (mediations, arbitrations), and speaking / writing invitations.

# Biblical Hope and Help for Redemptive Relationships

***Key Principles and Biblical Texts to Encourage You in Your Most Difficult Relationships***

*“But I say to you who hear, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who hurt you ...”*

**—Luke 6:27-28**

*“Judgment without mercy will be shown to anyone who has not been merciful. Mercy triumphs over judgment!”*

**—James 2:12-13**

Teaching Content by Tara Barthel

**[www.TaraBarthel.com](http://www.TaraBarthel.com)**

**[www.RedemptiveRelationships.com](http://www.RedemptiveRelationships.com)**

# FOUNDATIONAL BIBLICAL PEACEMAKING PRINCIPLES<sup>1</sup>



**Escape Responses:** Suicide, Flight, Denial (*1 Samuel 2, 19, 31*)

**Peacemaking Responses:** Overlook, Reconciliation, Negotiation, Mediation, Arbitration, Ch. Accountability (*Prov 19:11, Matt 5, Phil 2, Matt 18, 1 Cor 6*)

**Attack Responses:** Assault, Litigation, Murder (*Acts 6, Rom 13, Matt 5:21-22*)

## THE FOUR G'S OF PEACEMAKING

As people reconciled to God by the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, we believe that we are called to respond to conflict in a way that is remarkably different from the way the world deals with conflict (*Matt. 5:9; Luke 6:27-36; Gal. 5:19-26*):

**Glorify God:** How can I please and honor God in this conflict? (*1 Cor. 10:31*)

**Get the Log Out of Your Eye:** How can I show Jesus's work in me by taking responsibility for my contribution to this conflict? (*Matt. 7:3-5*)

**Gently Restore:** How can I lovingly serve others by helping them take responsibility for their contribution to this conflict? (*Gal. 6:1-2*)

**Go and Be Reconciled:** How can I demonstrate the forgiveness of God and encourage a reasonable solution? (*Matt. 5:23-24*)

## SEVEN A'S OF CONFESSION

*Matt. 7:3-5; 1 John 1:8-9; Prov. 28:13*

- A**ddress everyone involved
- A**void if, but, and maybe
- A**dmit specifically
- A**cknowledge the hurt
- A**ccept the consequences
- A**lter your behavior
- A**sk for forgiveness

## THE FOUR PROMISES OF FORGIVENESS

*Matt. 6:12; 1 Cor. 13:5; Eph. 4:32*

1. I will not dwell on this incident.
2. I will not bring this incident up again and use it against you.
3. I will not talk to others about this incident.
4. I will not allow this incident to stand between us or hinder our personal relationship.

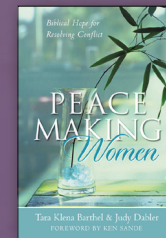
# PEACEMAKING WOMEN

*The Tripartite Model of Shalom (Peace) with ...*

**God:** Doctrine of God, Idolatry, Suffering

**Others:** Friendship, Romantic Love, Marriage/Parenting/Family, the Church, Female Leaders with Powerful Personalities

**Within:** Shame, Depression, Fear



## LIVING THE GOSPEL IN RELATIONSHIPS VIDEO STUDY



A women's study that digs deep into Scripture yet doesn't give you so many rules and to-do's that you leave feeling weighed down and condemned.

*"Filled with Scripture ... points you to Jesus."*  
—Ed Welch

## REDEEMING CHURCH CONFLICTS

**The Acts 15 Model for Redeeming Church Conflicts:**

- **Perspective:** When Sharp Disputes Begin, Eternity Makes a Difference (*Acts 15:2-4*)
- **Discernment:** Much Discussion and Debate, Best Questions, Group Dynamics, Blindness (*Acts 15:5-7a*)
- **Leadership:** Christian Duty, Shepherd Leadership, Biblical Followership, Accountability We Should Cherish (*Acts 15:7-35*)
- **Biblical Response:** Glorifying God in this Mess, Owning My Contribution, Speaking Truth in Love, Forgiving as I Have Been Forgiven (*Acts 15:11, 16-18*)



<sup>1</sup> The majority of this content is © Ken Sande, *The Peacemaker* ([www.RW360.org](http://www.RW360.org)); used by permission in Tara Barthel's resources: *Peacemaking Women* (with Judy Dabler), *Redeeming Church Conflicts* (with David V. Edling), and *Living the Gospel in Relationships*.