



# THE PEACE PURSUIT MODEL™

Do you want to resolve a relational problem?

Choose your role and follow your icon to reach appropriate confession and forgiveness.



**Offended** Choose the offended role if you feel someone has personally wronged you, hurt you, sinned against you, offended you, or anything similar to these. Maybe it was something you feel they should have done, but they didn't do.  
*Proverbs 19:11, Colossians 3:13, Luke 17:3-4, Matthew 18:15*



**Offender** Consider yourself in the supposed offender role if you realize you have personally offended or hurt another person, or if someone has told you that you have offended them or another person.  
*Matthew 5:23-24, Mark 9:50, James 5:16*



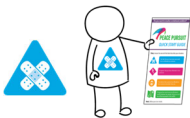
**Initiator** You observed someone offend another person. Or, you sense two people are in conflict and you do not believe either of them is seeking peace. Or, you sense that a person has sinned against God, and the sin is not clearly or directly against another person.  
*Galatians 6:1-2, James 5:19-20, Matthew 7:12*



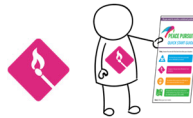
**Coach** Someone has come to you to talk about a relational problem between two people. You are not one of the two people in the conflict. Your role is fulfilled when you impartially help the person choose their role and they meet with God during all the appropriate steps of Stage 1.  
*Proverbs 1:5, 12:15, 13:10, 19:20*

## STAGE 1 Meet with God.

Stage 1 is based on principles from these and other Bible passages: *Matthew 7:12, Romans 14:19, Hebrews 12:14, Ephesians 4:3, Romans 12:18, Colossians 3:13, Matthew 7:3-5, Psalm 139:23-24, Philippians 2:2-4, Matthew 7:1-2.* See the [PEACE PURSUIT QUICK START GUIDE](#).



**Offended** Prayerfully process your role in the Peace Pursuit *Quick Start Guide*. While you meet with God, forgive the supposed offender in your heart. Then, you can decide to overlook the offense and not talk with the person about it. Or, you can choose to have a conversation with the supposed offender. You may *optionally* ask a coach to help you process Stage 1.



**Offender** If it appears that you have offended or hurt someone, you should first complete the Peace Pursuit *Quick Start Guide* and then seek peace with the assumed offended person. You may *optionally* ask a coach to help you process Stage 1.



**Initiator** If you believe that neither of the parties has approached the other to make peace, process Stage 1 in the Peace Pursuit *Quick Start Guide*. Meet with God and prayerfully consider encouraging one of the parties to fulfill their role (usually the supposed primary offender). You have the *option* to ask a coach to help you decide if you should go to Stage 2.

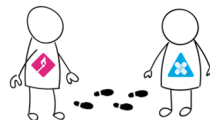
## STAGE 2 If appropriate, meet with the other person.

Stage 2 is based on principles from these and other Bible passages: *Matthew 7:12, Luke 17:3-4, 1 John 1:9, Matthew 3:8, Galatians 6:1, Ephesians 4:29, 2 Corinthians 7:8-11, James 1:19, Matthew 18:15.* See the [PEACE PURSUIT QUICK START GUIDE](#).

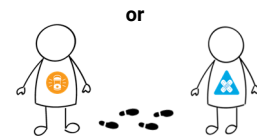
"Meet with the other person" means to converse or communicate in the way, place, and time which will create the most effective environment for each person to humbly and honestly listen to each other and reach appropriate confession and forgiveness. This meeting should feel more like a conversation than a confrontation. How this happens can depend on circumstances and cultural norms.



**Offended** If the supposed offender does not come and confess to you, after you meet with God at Stage 1, you can choose to converse with that person at an appropriate time and place. Your goal is to reach confession and forgiveness, as needed. If the person does not listen after several conversations and reasonable time, you can move to Stage 3.

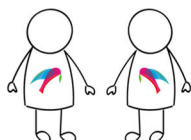


**Offender** After you complete Stage 1, humbly and contritely confess to the offended person at an appropriate time and place, as shown in the Peace Pursuit *Quick Start Guide*. Your goal is to reach appropriate confession and forgiveness, as needed.

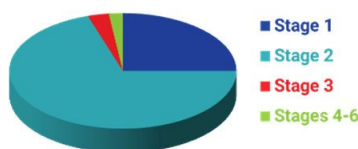


**Initiator** After you complete Stage 1, you may decide to converse with one of the parties, as shown in the Peace Pursuit *Quick Start Guide*. Your goal in this conversation is to encourage that person to begin Stage 1 for their role. Your role is then finished.

If each person fulfills their role at Stages 1 and 2, you will most likely reach appropriate confession and forgiveness.



Estimated percent of conflicts resolved by Peace Pursuit stage



## STAGE 3 You and the other party meet together with someone else.

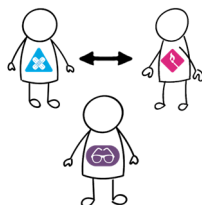
Stage 3 is based on principles from these and other Bible passages: *Matthew 7:12, Proverbs 18:17, 1 Timothy 5:19, Matthew 18:16.*

The two parties converse with each other in the presence of someone else. That third person is in the role of witness or mediator. Their purpose is to provide a safe, respectful environment for the two parties to listen to each other and reach appropriate confession and forgiveness, as necessary. If each person fulfills their role, you will rarely need to go beyond Stage 3.



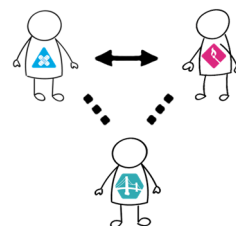
**Witness** You are able to give honest and impartial testimony about one or more of these: the nature of the conflict between two people; the character of one or both parties; the reconciliation process they have followed so far.

*Proverbs 14:25, Proverbs 14:5, Matthew 18:16*



**Mediator** Two people have asked you to help create a safe and respectful environment for the two of them to discuss and resolve the issue between themselves. You are able to impartially facilitate their conversation to help them reach appropriate confession and forgiveness.

*2 Corinthians 5:20, Galatians 6:1-2*



or

If each person fulfills their role at Stage 3, you will almost always reach appropriate confession and forgiveness.

## STAGE 4 You and the other party meet with a leader.

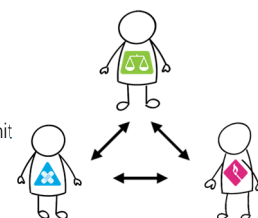
Stage 4 is based on principles from these and other Bible passages: *Matthew 7:12, 1 Peter 5:1-4, Hebrews 5:14, 13:17, 1 Corinthians 6:1-8, Matthew 18:17a.*



**Leader** One (or both) of the parties is accountable to you in spiritual matters. If the parties have not been able to reach peace at Stage 2 or Stage 3, you are responsible to make an authoritative judgment of the situation at Stage 4, and to approve a mentor at Stage 5 for an offender who needs discipleship.

*1 Peter 5:1-4, 1 Corinthians 6:5, 1 Thessalonians 5:14, 2 Timothy 4:2, Hebrews 5:14, Hebrews 13:17, Matthew 18:17*

The two parties converse with each other in the presence of a person who the supposed offender is accountable to in spiritual matters. If the two parties do not reach peace, the leader makes an impartial judgment of their relational problem. The leader considers the interaction between the assumed offended person and the supposed offender, the nature of the offense(s), and appropriate input from credible witnesses or mediators. All parties should respect and submit to the leader's decision. Depending on the response of both parties and the nature of the offense(s) between them, the leader approves a discipleship plan for whichever offender is under their care. The leader can appoint a mentor to guide the offender through Stage 5.



## STAGE 5 An approved mentor meets with the offender.

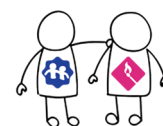
Stage 5 is based on principles from these and other Bible passages: *Matthew 7:12, 2 Corinthians 7:10-11, Matthew 3:8, Ephesians 4:21-32, Colossians 3:12, 2 Timothy 2:22-26, Romans 16:17a, 2 Timothy 3:16-17, 1 Thessalonians 5:14, 2 Timothy 4:2.*



**Mentor** You are able to oversee the discipleship process of the offender at Stage 5, which leads to their reconciliation with God and with the offended. You may or may not have had a role in the peacemaking process up to this point.

*Galatians 6:1-2, 1 Thessalonians 5:14, 2 Timothy 4:2*

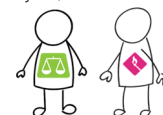
With love, care and patience, a mentor approved by the leader helps the offender complete the discipleship plan which was decided by the leader at Stage 4. (It is possible that the leader could fill the mentor role themselves.) The goals of this discipleship plan include: reconciliation with God and the offended, renewal of mind, fruits of repentance, and training in righteousness. However, if the offender does not complete this discipleship plan, the leader can move the process to Stage 6.



## STAGE 6 The leader meets with the offender.

Stage 6 is based on principles from these and other Bible passages: *Matthew 7:12, 1 Corinthians 5: 9-13, 2 Thessalonians 3: 14-15, Titus 3:10, Ephesians 5:3-5, 2 Timothy 3:5, Matthew 18:17b.*

If the offender does not complete the Stage 5 discipleship plan, the leader meets with the offender to give him or her one more opportunity to heed wise counsel and accept the loving grace and care of the community. If the offender remains unrepentant or unsubmitive to wise judgment and patient, loving discipleship, the leader formally dismisses him or her from the community. If the offender later shows godly sorrow and fruits of repentance, he or she may reapply to join the community.



**Aggravator** You may mean well, but you are hindering peace by being partial toward one party, by being a gossip, a busybody, a meddler, a false witness, or by acting inappropriately in any other role. If you are in one of the eight legitimate Peace Pursuit roles in this situation, correct your aggravating behavior. If you don't have a legitimate role, remove yourself from the peacemaking process.

*1 Timothy 5:13, 2 Thessalonians 3:11, 1 Peter 4:15, James 2:1-4, Proverbs 6:16,19, Proverbs 19:5, Proverbs 24:23*