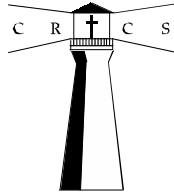


**Conflict Resolution
& Conciliation Services**



*“Guiding People
Through Conflict to Peace”*

SUMMER QUARTER 2011

PEACE NOTES



Focus on Service

One of the issues we often find ourselves facing is coaching people on how to respond to a spouse's decision to end a marriage. People respond differently to the news of their spouse requesting a divorce. The individual responding may have a variety of responses. We have found that some come in with a vindictive focus, others with incapacitating grief, and others that come in with passive acceptance – but in almost all the cases the reactions are not core issues. The core issue is almost always a lot deeper and is an across-the-board struggle for anyone involved in conflict, that is - seeking to find a way to be at peace with someone who will not be at peace with you. Sometimes there is a clear reason for the choice to end a marriage for example, adultery, but it is more often the case that we see a spouse seeking a divorce with the proclamation of not loving their husband or wife anymore. We are currently working with a couple that has had issues of unfaithfulness within their marriage. The wife is struggling with the decision whether to include a focus on healing in the midst of separation or just divorce. Our efforts include helping the husband who is stumbling in repentance to find a way to be at peace with her decision, and encouraging the wife to find peace with her husband and her current life situation. Our hope is each can come to be at peace with the outcome and each other.

Abounding Grace

We have been blessed in the past several months to watch as God has expanded our staff allowing us to take on more cases and reach out to a greater number of people. With a strong, dedicated group of five associated conciliators, three of whom are in the certification program to become Christian conciliators we have been able to work on a wide variety of cases. We are excited to see so many pursuing the ministry of resolving conflict in a Biblical manner. The opportunity to work with more conciliators has been a blessing in numerous ways. We have been able to expand our outreach to the community to include more clients and take on additional cases that are in the realm of family, employment, and church conflicts. God has provided the connection to our ministry for people we serve and because of that, together we can strive to honor him as we attempt to work to resolve the hurt and bitterness so many carry around on a daily basis. It is a blessing to see the staff interact with one another and our clients and witness their determination to turn conflict into peace and glorify our God with the outcomes. In the midst of hard times, we are thankful to have been provided with opportunities to serve our community and glorify God in the midst of the brokenness of conflict and the darkness of human sinfulness.

Charitable Service Highlight of the Quarter

We currently are working with a couple who came to us several months ago at the recommendation of their church. They were on the brink of a separation and struggling with very serious financial circumstances. The wife was seeking to end the relationship that involved verbal and physical abuse. We are now in the process of coaching each party individually. We are encouraging them to find new ways of engaging with each other as well as establishing methods of dealing with the conflicts they face. The parties suspended the pursuit of a separation and are now focusing on implementing new, productive ways of interacting with each other as well as more fully connecting with their church for additional support.

A Nonprofit Program of Conflict Resolution & Conciliation Center, Inc.

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