

The image features a group of approximately 15 business professionals in silhouette, standing on a high-rise floor with a glass railing. They are engaged in various interactions, such as talking, looking at documents, and standing in small groups. The background is a bright, hazy city skyline with several skyscrapers, including one with a distinctive pointed top. The lighting is warm and golden, suggesting a sunrise or sunset, which creates a strong glow and casts long, dark reflections of the people and the city onto the glass floor below. A prominent yellow rectangular banner is centered horizontally across the middle of the image, containing the word 'Peacemaking' in a bold, dark blue, sans-serif font.

# Peacemaking

# Be a peacemaker.

*“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.”*

—Matthew 5:9

*“If possible, so far as it depends on you, be at peace with all men.”*

—Romans 12:18

*“Seek peace and pursue it.”*

—Psalm 34:14

# Walk in forgiveness.

*“Lord, how often should I forgive someone who sins against me? Seven times?”*

*“No, not seven times,” Jesus replied, “but seventy times seven!”*

—Matthew 18:21-22

- Unforgiveness is self-torture. (Matt. 18:23-34)
- An act of forgiveness is a seed of greatness.

# Don't sue fellow Christians.

*“So if you have law courts dealing with matters of this life, do you appoint them as judges who are of **no account in the church**? Or do you not know that **the saints will judge the world**? Do you not know that **we will judge angels**? How much more matters of this life? If the world is judged by you, are you not competent to constitute the smallest law courts? ”*

—1 Corinthians 6:4

- Non-Christian judges haven't submitted to Christian discipleship/accountability.
- Christians should be able to judge far greater matters than disputes in business.

# How to Confront: Four Steps

*“If your brother sins, go and **show him his fault in private**; if he listens to you, you have won your brother. But if he does not listen to you, **take one or two more with you**, so that by the mouth of two or three witnesses every fact may be confirmed. If he refuses to listen to them, **tell it to the church**; and if he refuses to listen even to the church, **let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector.**”*

—Matthew 18:15-17

# If you are sued by another Christian...

- Wise Christians are available to arbitrate disputes.
- Request a Christian mediator and/or Christian arbitrator agreed upon by the parties.
- You may defend yourself in a secular court in this situation.

# Christians Suing Non-Christians

- There is no explicit prohibition against a Christian suing a non-Christian in a secular court.
- Secular courts are ordained by God (Romans 13:1-7).
- Even Apostle Paul cited Roman law and utilized secular courts protect his legal rights. (Acts 16:37-38, 22:25-29, and 25:10-12)

# Maintain pure motives.

*“If anyone wants to sue you and take your shirt, let him have your coat also.”*

—Matthew 5:40

*“If the matter be small, which we may lose without an considerable damage to our families, it is good to submit to it [legal nonresistance] for peace’ sake.”*

—Matthew Henry

- Walk in forgiveness
- Your motive for taking legal action is critical.