

Important Books on Peacemaking

An Annotated Bibliography

by Rick Love

The following books provide an excellent overview of the theology and practice of peacemaking, and the multi-dimensional nature of reconciliation.

Augsburger, David W.

1992 *Conflict Mediation Across Cultures: Pathways and Patterns*

Louisville: Westminster/John Knox Press

Full of helpful case studies and wise insights about peacemaking, especially across cultures. At times a bit academic.

Daye, Russell

2004 *Political Forgiveness: Lessons from South Africa*

Maryknoll: Orbis Books

As the title suggests, Daye seeks to learn lessons from South Africa about the role of forgiveness in the political sphere. He describes five acts of political forgiveness: truth-telling, apology and claiming of responsibility, building a transitional-justice framework, finding ways to heal, and embracing forgiveness.

Elmer, Duane

1993 *Cross-Cultural Conflict: Building Relationships for Effective Ministry*

Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press

The best book available on peacemaking cross-culturally. Describes Biblically acceptable and culturally sensitive alternatives to the more direct Western approach to peacemaking. Discussion on the role of a mediator, storytelling, proverbs and the understanding of a shame culture is exceptional.

Fisher, Roger and William Ury

1991 *Getting to Yes: Negotiating Agreement Without Giving In* (2nd edition)

New York: Penguin

A standard work on business negotiation with profound relevance for peacemaking. Describes four keys to “principled negotiation” – separate the people from the problem, focus on interests rather than positions, generate a variety of possibilities before deciding what to do, insist that the result be based on some objective standard (criteria).

Henderson, Michael

2008 *Forgiveness: Breaking the Chain of Hate*

Portland: Arnica Publishing:

Abundantly illustrates the healing power of forgiveness through case studies from around the world. A stirring, inspirational book that will help equip the next generation of peacemakers.

Kateregga, Badru. D. and Shenk, David W.

1980 *Islam and Christianity*

Nairobi: Uzema Press Ltd.

A simple and friendly faith exchange between a Muslim and a Christian. A great example of dialogue without compromise. David Shenk's irenic spirit shines throughout.

Katongole, Emmanuel and Chris Rice

2008 *Reconciling All Things: A Christian Vision for Justice, Peace and Healing*

Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press

A profoundly biblical description of reconciliation in all its fullness. At the same time clear about the painful realism of the world in which we pursue peace. The authors are co-directors of the Center for Reconciliation at Duke Divinity School.

Love, Rick

2001 *Peacemaking: Resolving Conflict, Restoring and Building Harmony in Relationships.*

Pasadena: William Carey Library

An inductive study of Scripture about peacemaking in the format of a study guide. With helpful comments and practical questions.

Ruth-Heffelbower, Duane

1999 *Conflict and Peacemaking Across Cultures: Training for Trainers*

Fresno: : Fresno Pacific University Center for Peacemaking and Conflict Studies

Brimming with practical models for peacemaking in all its dimensions. An excellent guide.

Sande, Ken

1992 *The Peacemaker: A Biblical Guide to Resolving Personal Conflict*

Grand Rapids: Baker Book House

An excellent, comprehensive, practical guide to peacemaking. As a lawyer, however, Sande tends to put a great emphasis on the more legal dimensions of the process rather than the pastoral.

Stassen, Glen H.

1992 *Just Peacemaking: Transforming Initiatives for Justice and Peace.*

Louisville: Westminster/John Knox Press

Outlines the basic principles of "just peacemaking," with a profound analysis of the Sermon on the Mount. Stassen is a professor of Christian ethics at Fuller Theological Seminary.

Stassen, Glen H., editor

2004 *Just Peacemaking: Ten Practices for Abolishing War*

Cleveland: The Pilgrim Press

Glen Stassen and others describe a new kind of ethical theory as it relates to war, which they call "just peacemaking." In contrast to pacifism and just war theory, just peacemaking focuses on the importance of ten proactive practices that prevent war and facilitate peace.

Tutu, Desmond

2000 *No Future Without Forgiveness*

New York: Image Doubleday

A profoundly moving story along with revolting details about apartheid in South Africa. Describes the Truth and Reconciliation Commission and the role of forgiveness in the healing of this nation. Tutu's commitment to "restorative justice ... the healing of breaches, the redressing of imbalances, the restoration of broken relationships" highlights the power of true forgiveness.

Volf, Miroslav

1996 *Exclusion and Embrace: A Theological Exploration of Identity, Otherness, and Reconciliation*

Nashville: Abingdon Press

A profound description of reconciliation by a world class theologian. But this is not ivory tower theology. It was born in the crucible of violence and war. Not always an easy read.

2005 *Free of Charge: Giving and Forgiving in a Culture Stripped of Grace*

Zondervan: Grand Rapids

A popular yet profound description of the theology of giving and forgiving. Volf is masterful at showing how the gospel of Jesus relates to life.