



THE PEACEMAKER'S PATH



TWO STORIES

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- **Genesis 26:12-22** — Isaac probably would have felt justified if he had responded more violently to the Philistines. He was in the right and had enough resources that he intimidated them.
- **1 Samuel 25:32-35** — David subtly acknowledges how wrong he would have been if he had used the sword to solve this problem. It is, in fact, Abigail who is the hero of the story.

- It seems like our society is more “on edge” than ever. While it might be true that on an individual level we are experiencing unprecedented trials, Solomon was right (Ecclesiastes 1:10).

A photograph of a dirt road winding through a vast, flat, grassy landscape under a dark, cloudy sky. The road is a light brown color and curves from the bottom center towards the middle left of the frame. The grass is a mix of green and yellow, suggesting a dry or late summer season. The sky is a deep, dark blue-grey with some lighter clouds visible near the horizon.

NOTHING NEW

- It seems like our society is more “on edge” than ever. While it might be true that on an individual level we are experiencing unprecedented trials, Solomon was right (Ecclesiastes 1:10).
- Conflict is a natural consequence of competing personal interests (Ecc. 4:4). This is why Jesus’ disciples are called to be distinctive. “Blessed are the peacemakers,” He said. “My peace I leave with you...” (John 14:27).
- Jesus was the perfect model (Isaiah 42:1–4).

NOTHING NEW



1 TIMOTHY 2:2-4





**SO HOW (AND WHY)
SHOULD I FOLLOW THE
PEACEMAKER'S PATH?**



LOOK AT THE BEST CASE-WORST CASE



**PEACEMAKERS
MAKE IT EASY
ON OTHERS TO
PURSUE PEACE
WITH THEM**

Romans 12:17-21

Hebrews 12:12-15



CORNSTARCH + WATER = NON-NEWTONIAN FLUID



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**PEACEMAKERS SAVE THEIR
CREDIT FOR WHAT MATTERS**



TRANSACTION DENIED


Your account has insufficient funds for
this transaction

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A close-up photograph of a computer monitor. The screen displays a white message box with black text. The text reads: "TRANSACTION DENIED" followed by "Your account has insufficient funds for this transaction". The background of the screen is blue. The monitor is resting on a dark blue, textured surface.


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- **If you want your voice to be really powerful, don't dilute it!**

The image is a composite of two photographs. The top half shows a dark, stormy sky with heavy, dark grey clouds and some lighter patches where the sun is breaking through. The bottom half shows a dirt road with two distinct tire tracks, curving through a field of tall, golden-brown grass. The text 'JAMES 3:13-18' is overlaid in white on a dark horizontal band that separates the two images.

JAMES 3:13-18