



## THE RELATIONALLY WISE LEADER

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**Synopsis:** This seminar describes the relational challenges church, ministry and business leaders face today and describes how they can model and teach relational wisdom (biblical emotional intelligence), peacemaking and Christian mediation to inspire and equip their people to respond to life's challenges in a way that strengthens relationships, promotes personal reconciliation, builds unity, preserves marriages and reveals the transforming power of Jesus and his gospel. This seminar also provides risk management resources that reduce exposure to legal liability when carrying out pastoral ministry. Pdf at [rw360.org/rwl](http://rw360.org/rwl)

### A. THE INSPIRING EXAMPLE OF MOSES

1. Where two or three are gathered in Jesus' name ...
2. The foolishness of Moses: I can do all the peacemaking myself (Exod. 18:13-18).
3. The wisdom of Moses: humility, teachability, flexibility (Exod. 18:19-26; Deut. 1:9-18).

### B. THE FRUIT OF YOUR INSPIRING EXAMPLE

1. Start with yourself, mark a path and set an inspiring example
  - "Practice these things, immerse yourself in them, so that all may see your progress" (1 Tim. 4:15).
  - Imitate Jesus, who was highly relational (Eph. 4:22-5:1; Matt. 11:28-30; John 10:11).
  - Disciple your leadership team and then your entire body (1 Cor. 11:1; 1 Tim. 4:12).
2. The fruit of relational leadership.
  - [Avoid the devastating trauma and high cost of a forced leadership exit.](#)
  - Your people can experience greater unity, peace and enduring relationships (Jas. 3:18).
  - You can enjoy a clear conscience, avoid burnout and more time with your family.
  - God is glorified as others see and are drawn to the transforming power of the gospel (John 17:20-22; 13:34-35).
  - Your example can inspire others in your community and network.

## C. MODEL RELATIONAL WISDOM

1. Life is all about relationships (Eph. 2:11-21).
2. Relationships are fueled and moved by emotions!
3. Emotions also overthrow us.
4. Relational Wisdom – Getting Upstream of Conflict



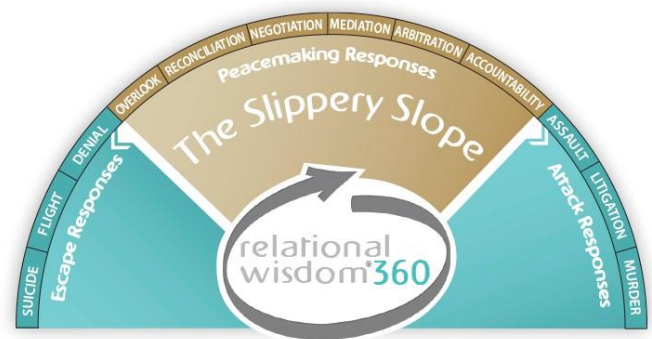
- Relational wisdom, in essence, is the desire and ability to live out Jesus’ two Great Commandments, namely, to love God with all your heart and to love your neighbor as yourself (Matt. 22:37-39).
  - Relational wisdom (RW) may also be defined as your ability to discern emotions, interests and abilities in yourself and others, to interpret this information in the light of God’s Word, and to use these insights to manage your responses and relationships successfully.
5. RW is taught in “360’s” throughout Scripture (Eph. 4:30-32; Ex. 20:1-21)
  6. RW is an outpouring of the gospel
  7. Four simple acrostics make it easy to improve RW: [SOG, GPS, READ, SERVE.](#)

## D. MODEL RELATIONAL PEACEMAKING

1. Conflict provides three opportunities to apply RW: Glorify God, grow to be like Christ, serve other people (1 Cor. 10:31-11:1).

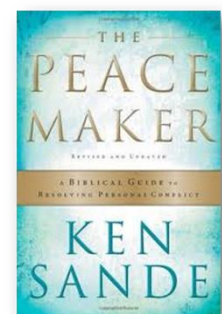
2. Conflict is a slippery slope

- Peace-faking (Escape)
- Peace-breaking (Attack)
- Peacemaking



3. The 4 G’s of Peacemaking (Matt. 5:9; James 3:18).

- Glorify God
- Get the log out of your eye
- Gently restore
- Go and be reconciled



4. Key Peacemaking Principles
  - The Progression of an Idol
  - The 7 A's of Confession
  - Four Promises of Forgiveness
  - PAUSE Negotiation
  - The "Golden Result"

## **E. MODEL RELATIONAL LEADERSHIP**

1. Healthy churches have relational leaders (Matt. 22:37-39; 1 Thess. 1:7-8).
2. Relational leaders [model humility, teachability and flexibility](#) (Phil. 2:3-4)
3. Relational leaders realize that [sin can turn strengths into weaknesses](#) (1 Cor. 8:1).
4. Relational leaders understand [the seductiveness of power and its potential for abuse](#); (see also [Power Causes Brain Damage](#) and [Reagan, Lincoln, RW and You](#)).
5. Relational leaders are [skilled peacemakers](#) who [model confession](#) and inspire the "[Golden Result](#)" (Matt. 5:9; James 3:18; Matt. 7:12).
6. Relational leaders are [always bringing the gospel to their people](#) (Rom. 5:1-11).
7. Relational leaders develop and model [empathy and compassion](#) (Col. 3:12).
8. Relational leaders [use church discipline to redeem and restore lost sheep](#).
9. Relational leaders are both [approachable](#) and [accountable](#) (Luke 7:37-38; Matt. 8:9).
10. Relational leaders are always [building passport](#) (John 4:7-30).
11. Relational leaders provide the [Three P's of Satisfaction](#) (1 Cor. 14:40; Matt. 7:120).
12. Relational leaders practice [clarity plus charity](#) (Matt. 7:12)
13. Relational leaders know how to [defuse explosive meetings](#) (Matt. 7:3-5).
14. Relational leaders [encourage and inspire others to be better](#) (1 Thess. 5:11).
15. Relational leaders apply RW in every challenge of life, including [cancer](#).

[Additional Examples of RW and Peacemaking in Pastoral Ministry](#)

## F. A STRATEGY FOR GROWTH

1. Pray for guidance.
2. Develop a plan for personal and organizational growth ([Download template here](#))
3. Start with yourself; practice these things, set an example (1 Tim. 4:15).
  - Download free resources ([RW App](#), [RW Blog](#), [Guiding People Through Conflict](#))
  - Pursue foundational training ([Discovering Relational Wisdom](#), [Relational Peacemaking](#))
  - [RW Shepherd Certificate](#)
  - [Advanced Training and Certification](#)
4. Use relevant training resources to disciple your current leadership team and to screen and train new leaders.
5. Build a [Peace Sower Team](#) to share peacemaking responsibilities (Exod. 18:22-23).
6. Use relational wisdom and peacemaking [group study sets](#) for Sunday school, group studies, staff development.
7. Use [Relational Commitments](#) to clarify and obtain informed consent to your pastoral policies and practices, which reduces misunderstandings, conflict and legal liability.
8. [Use relational wisdom for community outreach, witnessing and evangelism.](#)
9. Send a team to RW360's annual [Sowing Peace Conference](#).

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