

Let's talk Ethics!

As I reflect on the state of the world, I am struck by how much we need peacemakers right now. Everywhere we look, there are divisions—between nations, communities, and even families. Fear, anger, and mistrust seems to have become the language of our time. The world is filled with challenges—conflicts, divisions, and misunderstandings—but what if we could change the narrative?

I believe the world is crying out for people willing to do just that. This month, in the Let's Talk Ethics segment, I want to focus on one of the most transformative commitments we can make: to be a peacemaker.

Being a peacemaker is deeply rooted in ethics because it embodies the principles of justice, respect, and compassion that underpin moral behaviour. Ethical living is about doing what is right, even when it's challenging, and peacemaking requires us to step into difficult situations with integrity and courage to bridge divides and foster reconciliation. To me, being a peacemaker is about so much more than avoiding conflict or maintaining silence in tense situations. A peacemaker builds bridges where others see walls, chooses understanding over judgment, and works tirelessly to bring people together in a fractured world.

Peacemakers are people who see beyond the chaos and choose to be agents of reconciliation and hope.

Peacemakers work to create environments where collaboration, respect, and reconciliation thrive.

Peacemaking requires courage. It demands that we speak truth with grace, even when it's uncomfortable, and that we listen with empathy, even when it's difficult. It's not always easy, but it is always worth it. Peacemaking is transformative. I've witnessed its power both in quiet, personal moments and on the stage of history.

Leaders like Nelson Mandela and Desmond Tutu didn't just inspire change—they built bridges that helped heal a nation torn apart by division.

But the true beauty of peacemaking is that it's not reserved for the famous or the powerful. It's found in the everyday choices we make: reaching out to mend a broken relationship, standing up against injustice, or creating a safe space for dialogue in a fractured community. Each of these actions carries the potential to ripple outward, inspiring hope and healing far beyond what we can imagine. Never underestimate the difference you can make by choosing peace.

The commitment to be a peacemaker is not just a principle—it's a challenge and an opportunity. It's a call to reject apathy and division and to actively sow seeds of peace wherever we go.

This commitment feels especially urgent as we enter 2025. I can't help but ask myself: What kind of world do I want to help create? And the answer is always the same—a world where unity triumphs over division and love drives out hate. As we step into this new year, I want to invite you to join me in this pursuit. Let us be peacemakers in our homes, our workplaces, and our communities. Let us choose hope, reconciliation, and courage, even when the road is hard.

I leave you with these powerful words from Nelson Mandela: "Courageous people do not fear forgiving, for the sake of peace."

As we welcome a new year, I can't help but reflect on the immense potential each of us carries to make a difference. Let's make 2025 a year where we don't just talk about peace—we live it, one choice, one moment, and one conversation at a time. Together, we can make a difference.

Yours in ethics,

Helen Power