

**Specks and Planks**

**Matthew 7:3-5**

**The Peacemaker's**

1<sup>st</sup> Response: How can I glorify God?

2<sup>nd</sup> Response: How can I show Jesus' work in me by taking responsibility for my part?

**The wisdom of plank removal:**

**The way of plank removal:**

- Ask God to show me my part.
- Study the Bible to understand my actions and motives.
- Seek godly counsel to correct and guide me.
- Confess my part and ask for forgiveness.
- Take steps to change.

**Next week:**

How can I help others own their part of the conflict?

Download today's sermon "Specks and Planks" (06/01/14) by Tim Hawks for free, or share it via email, Facebook or Twitter at [hbc.com/media](http://hbc.com/media). CD's may be purchased at the Lakeline Campus Media Center.

# My Application

Use the following questions this week to reflect on what it would mean to align yourself with the truths taught in Scripture. Each question is meant for both personal reflection and as a catalyst for discussion with your family, friends, or small group.

1. Read Matthew 7:2-5. Why is it necessary to think of your part in a conflict as a plank? Does this mean that we are mostly to blame for our own conflicts?
2. "Thin skin is an indication of a hard heart." Does being overly sensitive contribute to conflict in your life? How could you cultivate a thicker skin and a softer heart?
3. Think of conflict you are currently experiencing. Begin taking practical steps along the "Way of Plank Removal."
  - Ask God to show you your part
  - Study the Bible to understand your actions and motives
  - Seek godly counsel to correct and guide you
  - Confess your part and ask for forgiveness
  - Take steps to change



## Memory Verse

*"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called sons of God."*

Matthew 5:9