

1. A new paradigm about money and possessions. Persons in power in some nations have stolen public and private property so they could live in luxury. At the same time, they have neglected the most basic needs of the hungry and homeless among their people. Less greed equals less fighting over scarce resources.

2. Appreciate differences. Instead of declaring war on those with other approaches to life, we should learn to understand and appreciate their history, culture, and goals.

3. Begin with cooperation. Consider Axelrod's Prisoner's Dilemma experiment. The best strategy for encouraging cooperation: tit for tat. Specifically, your first move must be a cooperative move. If the other person cooperates, continue cooperating. If the other person takes unfair advantage of your cooperative behavior, retaliate and compete during the next round. In short, reflect the other person's cooperative and competitive behavior.

4. Ceaselessly strive for world peace. World peace is an ideal. Due to the territorial, intolerant, and often bellicose nature of humans, everlasting world peace cannot be achieved. But because it is an ideal, it is always worth striving for, and we should never stop our efforts to work towards peace and harmony on this planet. To quote Heraclitus, "If man craves for gold, he must dig for it or be content with straw. If one wants pearls, one has to dive deep into the sea or be content with pebbles on the shore". The choice is ours — whether we want enduring peace and brotherhood, or perennial strife and violence.

5. E-communications, economics, and connectivity. We live in a borderless world. Technology can force us to stop and think about our impact on one another as long as we are closely knit by communications and economics. Social and mobile media and the interconnected nature of our economic and ecological predicament can be used to provide a “jolt” to world leadership.

6. Educate women around the world. Esteem the value of women throughout the world. Men’s thoughts reign in many parts of the world. While many of these thoughts (and the men who think them) are good, many others are focused on power, prestige, and conquest. Women need to know that they are powerful and can change the destiny of their community and their nation through educating their children and fostering love in the family.

7. Elect confident and charismatic world leaders. World leaders should have excellent mediation and negotiation skills. They should also be committed to resolving disputes through dialogue and not violence.

8. Eliminate foreign occupation in other countries. Foreign occupation in other countries is costly and builds hatred, resentment and resistance. Currently, it is one of the root causes of war.

9. Embody the idea of soft power.

Rather than using the hard power of military and economic muscle those in authority need to embody the galvanizing influence of soft power that can persuade and co-opt rather than coerce.

10. Encourage global

communication. People don't want to hurt people they know and with whom they are friends and neighbors. With the power of communication technology, it is easy to form strong relationships with people from other nations with whom we share our hobbies, pursuits, skills, professions, passions, dreams, literature, art, and other such common interests.

11. End poverty. Rural poverty poses a threat to the peace and stability of the entire world. The rural poor are largely responsible for the dangerous trend of migration from the countryside to the cities, a common and worrying feature of most developing countries. The solution to this problem lies in our collective resolve to commit ourselves to raising the standards of living of the rural poor by raising agricultural productivity and market access which will, ultimately, not only ensure adequate food on the table but also provide jobs both on and off-farm, raise incomes, and thereby pave the way for a more stable society.

12. Forgiveness. Nothing else.

Forgiveness is in no way opposed to justice, as if to forgive meant to overlook the need to right the wrong done. It is rather the fullness of justice, leading to that tranquility of order which is much more than a fragile and temporary cessation of hostilities, involving as it does the deepest healing of the wounds which fester in human hearts. Justice and forgiveness are both essential to such healing.

13 Getting to Peace. This is the title of an inspiring book by William Ury. The author's major contention is that there are always three sides to every conflict. The third side can transform destructive disputes into profitable cooperation. To achieve this goal, people on the third side have to play 10 different roles: To prevent the escalation of conflicts, they should act as providers to reduce frustrated needs, as teachers to supply conflict-management skills, and as bridge-builders to strengthen relationships. To resolve conflicts, they should act as mediators to handle conflicting interests, as the arbiters to settle disputed rights, as the equalizer to compensate for unequal powers, and as the healer to cure injured relationships. To contain conflicts, they should act as the witnesses to pay attention, as the referee to remove limitations, and as the peacekeeper to provide protection. Let's all remember that we are the third side.

14. Imagine peace. Before we can live in peace, we have to be able to imagine peace. The preamble to the United Nations Charter sums up the existential dilemma of today: "Since wars begin in the minds of men, it is in the minds of men that defenses of peace must be constructed". In times of war, it helps to be reminded of the hauntingly reminiscent affirmation of the human spirit in John Lennon's song 'Imagine', which captures this quest for peace in the shadow of war: 'You may say I'm a dreamer, but I'm not the only one, someday you too will join us, and the world will be one'."

15. Intercultural Marriage.

Intercultural marriages hold the model for world peace and harmony in diversity. The added benefit is that people are less likely to choose war as an option if that would mean bringing war to area of the world where they have extended family ties.

16. Let the UN do its job. The U.N. peace-building operations have a two-thirds success rate. They are surprisingly cost-effective. Over the past sixty years, United Nations peacekeeping has evolved into one of the main tools used by the international community to manage complex crises that pose a threat to international peace and security. Many thousands of men and women who have served in more than 60 operations around the world have accumulated and analyzed significant experience in this area. Since the beginning of the new millennium, the number of military, police and civilian personnel deployed in United Nations peacekeeping operations around the world has reached unprecedented levels. Not only has United Nations peacekeeping grown in size but also it has become increasingly complex. Beyond simply monitoring cease-fires, today's multi-dimensional peacekeeping operations are called upon to facilitate the political process through the promotion of national dialogue and reconciliation, protect civilians, assist in the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration of combatants, support the organization of elections, protect and promote human rights, and assist in restoring the rule of law.

17. Meditation is the answer.

Meditation is an individual tool for bringing about peace. If you practice mindful meditation, you are able to perceive what is happening around your world and accept it without judgment. If you go a step farther and practice loving-kindness meditation, you move from acceptance to the region of positive feelings. This position results in sustainable peace. (Search Google for more information about the two forms of meditation.)

19. Tolerance of different religions.

Many of the world's problems come from religious strife and intolerance. One of the ways to cure this is for religions to become secondary to universal ethics and morality, which are not tied to dogma and doctrine.

18. Peace is not just the absence of war. It is the opposite of war.

Peace is the opposite of any conflict, armed or unarmed. It is the opposite of national or ethnic hostilities, of civil or family strife. For years it has been held that peace comes only by preparation for war; peace comes only by preparing for peace, through training the people in righteousness and justice, and selecting rulers who respect the righteous will of the people.

20. Universal Equality. Provide

equal access to education, employment, natural resource, medicine, doctors, food, water, accommodation, land, and freedom of political and religious beliefs (including a lack of beliefs). This will reduce the feelings of frustration among the majority of our planet's population.