

Connect: 40 Days of Growing Warmer and Stronger Together
September 10, 2023

An intentional 40-day season of spiritual and relational growth where we commit together to being available, energized, and equipped for the future.

2 Timothy 2:14,23-24 NLT – Remind everyone (the church) about these things, and command them in God’s presence to stop fighting over words. Such arguments are useless, and they can ruin those who hear them... Again I say, don’t get involved in foolish, ignorant arguments that only start fights. A servant of the Lord must not quarrel but must be kind to everyone, be able to teach, and be patient with difficult people.

Colossians 3:8-9a, NIV – But now you must also rid yourselves of all such things as these: anger, rage, malice, slander, and filthy language from your lips. Do not lie to each other...

1 Corinthians 1:10, NIV – I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree with one another in what you say and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be perfectly united in mind and thought.

Four Biblical Ways of Dealing with Conflict

1. _____

- Often, the reason for conflict in my life is _____

James 4:1-2, NIV – What causes fights and quarrels among you? Don’t they come from your desires that battle within you? You desire but do not have, so you kill. You covet but you cannot get what you want, so you quarrel and fight.

• _____

Proverbs 20:3, NLT – Avoiding a fight is a mark of honor; only fools insist on quarreling. Proverbs 11:29a, LB – The fool who provokes his family to anger and resentment will finally have nothing worthwhile left.

- Quarrels are a sign of _____

1 Corinthians 3:3, LB – For you are still only baby Christians, controlled by your own desires, not God’s. When you are jealous of one another and divide up into quarreling groups, doesn’t that prove you are still babies, wanting your own way? In fact, you are acting like people who don’t belong to the Lord at all.

Romans 12:18, ESV – If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all.

Proverbs 27:22, NIV – Though you grind a fool in a mortar, grinding them like grain with a pestle, you will not remove their folly from them.

The Consequences of Unsettled Conflict:

- It hinders _____ (1 John 4:20)
- It hinders _____ (1 Peter 3:7)

2. _____

Matthew 5:23-24, NIV – [Jesus said,] “Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother or sister has something against you, leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to them; then come and offer your gift.”

Matthew 18:15, NCV – [Jesus said,] “If your fellow believer sins against you, go and tell him in private what he did wrong. If he listens to you, you have helped that person to be your brother or sister again.”

James 4:17, NCV – Anyone who knows the right thing to do, but does not do it, is sinning.
Matthew 5:9, NIV – [Jesus said,] “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.”

3. _____

Proverbs 13:10a, NLT – Pride leads to conflict.

Dr. Gary Chapman’s Five Languages of Apology:

- _____

Proverbs 15:13, NLT – A glad heart makes a happy face; a broken heart crushes the spirit.

- _____

Proverbs 15:1a, NCV – A gentle answer will calm a person’s anger.

- _____

Acts 3:19, NIV – Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord.

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- _____

Proverbs 16:24, ESV – Gracious words are like a honeycomb, sweetness to the soul and health to the body.

4. _____