



CAN WE ALL JUST GET ALONG?

HONORING GOD WITH OUR SPEECH
SPIRITUAL CONFLICT RESOLUTION
PROVERBS 27:6

Conflicts arise when individuals or groups clash over values, interests, or objectives. Scripture consistently portrays conflict as a natural outcome of humanity's imperfections, yet it also provides clear guidance on how to approach, manage, and resolve disagreements.

CAUSES OF CONFLICT-James 4:1

- **Wrong Internal Motives**
- **Pride**
- **Covetousness**
- **Anger**
- **Communication Breakdown**
- **Conflict of Interest**
- **Lack of Clarity**
- **Lack of Self Awareness**
- **Lack of Emotional Intelligence**
- **Emotional Triggers**
- **Unmet Expectations**
- **Spiritual Immaturity**

PRINCIPLES OF CONFLICT

- **CONFLICT IS NORMAL**
- **CONFLICT IS INEVITABLE**
- **IGNORING CONFLICT DOES NOT MAKE IT GO AWAY**
- **RESOLUTION OF CONFLICT DOES NOT HAVE TO RESULT IN A WIN-LOSE SITUATION**

Key Principles for Conflict Resolution

1. Approach with Prayer and Humility-Philippians 2:3

Before engaging another person, one is urged to pray for the right mindset and heart. Prayer and humility transform interactions, aligning them with a higher purpose rather than personal gain.

2. Seek Direct and Honest Communication-Matthew 18:15

Eye-to-eye communication done in a private context often reduces misunderstandings and fosters mutual respect. By sharing concerns directly and calmly, individuals can avoid gossip and clarify issues firsthand.

3. Involve Witnesses If Necessary-Matthew 18:16

If direct attempts fail, Matthew 18:16 encourages inviting one or two others, so that "every matter may be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses." This step brings additional perspective, helping ensure fair treatment and accountability. It is designed to preserve truth and protect both sides from false claims or emotional biases.

4. Prioritize Forgiveness-Luke 23:34, Colossians 3:13

Scripture repeatedly calls for forgiveness, with Christ Himself modeling the ultimate example when He prayed for those who crucified Him. This sacrificial posture prevents bitterness from taking root and provides a path to genuine restoration.

5. Demonstrate Love and Patience-1 Corinthians 13:4-5

Love shapes all Christian conduct. Patience and kindness de-escalate tension and illuminate the value of the other person even in the midst of a disagreement.

6. Maintain a Spirit of Peace and Unity-Romans 12:18

While not all disagreements end in full agreement, believers are called to strive for peace as far as they can.

Practical Steps For Conflict Resolution

1. Examine Internal Motives-James 1:19

Conflicts often expose selfish ambitions or unresolved hurts. Regular self-examination helps identify destructive patterns. This introspective step is essential in re-calibrating one's attitude before addressing the other person.

2. Use Gentle Speech-Proverbs 15:1

Calm, respectful communication creates an environment where solutions emerge more readily.

3. Forgo Vengeance-Proverbs 20:22

Allowing bitterness or vengeful thoughts to fester escalates tension. Trust in divine justice liberates individuals from resentment and the desire for retaliation.