



SEMESTER 3 - WEEK 3

DISCIPLINE 1,2,3 - Conflict Resolution [Maintaining Unity in the Bond of Peace]

Introduction:

God's design for unity and peace in the church:

- **Ephesians 4:1-3**
- **I Corinthians 10:31-33**
- **Colossians 3:12-14**

The source of my conflicts:

- **James 4:1-3**
- **Galations 5:19-21**

Sinful ways of avoiding conflict:

- **Just keep quiet**
- **Stay away from one another**
- **Change the subject/Avoid the issue**
- **Hide information, sins or bitterness**

God-honoring ways of navigating conflict:

- **Understand the danger of bitterness (Hebrews 12:15)**
- **Gather plenty of data before speaking (Prov 18:13, 17)**
- **Pray, study and think about the issue before speaking, if possible (Prov 15:28)**
- **Be self-controlled and loving in your speech (Prov 15:1, 12; I Peter 4:8)**
- **Demonstrate and/or communicate your love and care at the time of**
- **disagreement (Rom 12:9-10).**
- **Listen more than you speak, but do speak (Prov 10:19; 25:11).**
- **In matters of preference, prefer the other person (Rom 12:10)**
- **Be more interested in God's glory and the other's good, rather than having your own way, or being right (Romans 15:2)**
- **Love, forgive, and clothe your heart with godly virtues (Col 3:12-14)**



MINISTRY PASSAGES

DISCIPLINE 1,2,3 [THE HEART, HOME, MINISTRY]

Ephesians 4:1-3— MAINTAIN UNITY IN THE BOND OF PEACE

- 1 *Therefore I, the prisoner of the Lord, implore you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling with which you have been called,*
- 2 *with all humility and gentleness, with patience, showing tolerance for one another in love,*
- 3 *being diligent to preserve the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.*

Colossians 3:12-14— FORGIVE COMPLAINTS/PUT ON LOVE

- 12 *So, as those who have been chosen of God, holy and beloved, put on a heart of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and ^epatience;*
- 13 *bearing with one another, and forgiving each other, whoever has a complaint against anyone; just as the Lord forgave you, so also should you.*
- 14 *Beyond all these things *put on* love, which is ^athe perfect bond of unity.*



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QUESTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

1. What aids to navigating conflict do you find most difficult to remember when facing conflict? What practical ways can you prepare yourself in advance to keep these principles in front of you in the midst of conflict?

2. What sinful ways of dealing with conflict are you most prone to? How can you fight against that tendency?

