



SEMESTER 3 - WEEK 3

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

Introduction:

The source of my conflicts:

- James 4:1-3
- Galatians 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's design for unity and peace in the church:

- **Ephesians 4:1-3, 11-13**
- **Romans 15:5-6**
- **I Corinthians 1:10**
- **II Corinthians 13:11**
- **I Thessalonians 5:11-18**

God-honoring ways of navigating conflict:

- Make it your aim to glory God and please Him [**I Corinthians 10:31; II Corinthians 5:9-10**]
- Be committed to pursue peace [**Romans 12:18, Romans 14:19; Hebrews 12:14; James 3:17-18**]
- Stay out of conflicts that do not involve you [**Proverbs 26:17**]
- Look to see your contribution to the conflict first [**Matthew 7:3-5; James 4:1**]
- Understand the danger of bitterness [**Hebrews 12:15**]
- Believe the best about the other person [**I Corinthians 13:6-7; I Peter 4:8**]



- Gather plenty of data before speaking [**Proverbs 18:13, 17**]
- Pray, study and think about the issue before speaking, if possible [**Proverbs 15:28**]
- Be self-controlled and loving in your speech [**Proverbs 15:1; Ephesians 4:29**]
- Demonstrate and/or communicate your love and care [**Romans 12:9-10**].
- Listen more than you speak, but do speak [**Proverbs 10:19, 25:11**].
- Regard the other person as more important than yourself [**Philippians 2:2-3; Romans 12:16**]
- In matters of preference, prefer the other person [**Romans 12:10**]
- Love, forgive, and clothe your heart with godly virtues [**Colossians 3:12-14; I Peter 3:8-9**]
- Avoid foolish arguments and controversies [**I Timothy 6:3-6; II Timothy 2:23-26**]



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 patience;*
- 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 the perfect bond of unity.*

Hebrews 12:14-15—PURSUE PEACE

- 14 *Pursue peace with all men, and the sanctification without which no one will see the Lord.*
- 15 *See to it that no one comes short of the grace of God; that no root of bitterness springing up causes trouble, and by it many be defiled;*



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

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?

