

How To Handle Personal Conflict

No Offense, But... - Part 1

March 9, 2025

“We have learned to see conflict not as something to fear, but as an opportunity for growth.”

Relational conflict is some of the hardest pain we experience, isn't it?

How most of us handle conflict:

- **Avoid it and hope it goes away**
- **Talk about them behind their back, gossip**

How should I handle personal conflict?

“If another believer sins against you, go privately and point out the offense. If the other person listens and confesses it, you have won that person back.” Matthew 18:15 (NLT)

When there is conflict, lean in.

“²³So if you are presenting a sacrifice at the altar in the Temple and you suddenly remember that someone has something against you, ²⁴leave your sacrifice there at the altar. Go and be reconciled to that person. Then come and offer your sacrifice to God.” Matthew 5:23-24 (NLT)

When there is conflict, lean in.

Your path to growth is THROUGH conflict, not around conflict.

United we stand but divided we fall. (Mark 3:24-25)

*“Your **love** for one another will **prove** to the world that you are my disciples.” John 13:35 (NLT)*

**Is there someone God is telling you to go sit down with and talk?
Are you willing to do it?**

Checklist Before Addressing Conflict:

-  **Pray First** – Ask God to fill you with His Spirit and guide your words. (Eph 5:18)
-  **Plan the Right Time & Place** – Meet in person, in private, and without distractions. (Matt 18:15)
-  **Check Your Heart** – Go in love. Aim to reconcile, not just be right. (Eph 4:2, Matt 5:9)

-  **Be Ready to Own Your Part** – Identify and acknowledge any fault you may have in the conflict. (Matt 7:3-5)
-  **Be Ready to Forgive** – No matter how they respond, forgive because Christ has already forgiven you for way more. (Col 3:13)

When there is conflict, lean in.

What if we were a church that actually did this?

Additional great verses about resolving conflict in a God-honoring way:

“As iron sharpens iron, so a friend sharpens a friend.” Proverbs 27:17 (NLT)

“Wounds from a sincere friend are better than many kisses from an enemy.” Proverbs 27:6 (NLT)

“A gentle answer deflects anger, but harsh words make tempers flare.” Proverbs 15:1 (NLT)

“Avoiding a fight is a mark of honor; only fools insist on quarreling.” Proverbs 20:3 (NLT)

“Sensible people control their temper; they earn respect by overlooking wrongs.” Proverbs 19:11 (NLT)

“Do all that you can to live in peace with everyone.” Romans 12:18 (NLT)

“¹⁹Understand this, my dear brothers and sisters: You must all be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to get angry. ²⁰Human anger does not produce the righteousness God desires. ²¹So get rid of all the filth and evil in your lives, and humbly accept the word God has planted in your hearts, for it has the power to save your souls.” James 1:19-21 (NLT)

“⁴Dear brothers and sisters, if another believer is overcome by some sin, you who are godly should gently and humbly help that person back onto the right path. And be careful not to fall into the same temptation yourself. ²Share each other’s burdens, and in this way obey the law of Christ. ³If you think you are too important to help someone, you are only fooling yourself. You are not that important.” Galatians 6:1-3 (NLT)

“⁸Finally, all of you should be of one mind. Sympathize with each other. Love each other as brothers and sisters. Be tenderhearted, and keep a humble attitude. ⁹Don’t repay evil for evil. Don’t retaliate with insults when people insult you. Instead, pay them back with a blessing. That is what God has called you to do, and He will grant you His blessing.” 1 Peter 3:8-9 (NLT)