

You Still Make Me Crazy!

How to Resolve Conflict

I. Introduction

- A. Romans 12:17-18 (NAS) *¹⁷Never pay back evil for evil to anyone. Respect what is right in the sight of all men. ¹⁸If possible, so far as it depends on you, be at peace with all men.*
- B. What unresolved conflict does:
1. It blocks my fellowship with God.
 - a. I John 4:20 (NLG) *If someone says, "I love God," but hates a Christian brother or sister, that person is a liar; for if we don't love people we can see, how can we love God, whom we cannot see?*
 2. It hinders my prayers.
 - a. I Peter 3:7 (NAS) *You husbands in the same way, live with your wives in an understanding way, as with someone weaker, since she is a woman; and show her honor as a fellow heir of the grace of life, so that your prayers will not be hindered.*
 3. It hinders my happiness.

II. How to Resolve Conflict

- A. Take the initiative!
1. Genesis 3:10 (NLG) *"I heard you walking in the garden, so I hid. I was afraid because I was naked."*
 2. II Timothy 1:7 (NAS) *For God has not given us a spirit of timidity, but of power and love and discipline.*
 3. I John 4:18a (NAS) *There is no fear in love; but perfect love casts out fear.*
 4. Address the conflict at the right time!
 5. Matthew 5:23-24 (NLG) *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."*
 6. Reconciliation takes priority over worship!

7. When you plan a meeting to resolve conflict:
 - a. Choose the right time!
 - i. The best time is when you're both at your best!
 - b. Choose the right place!
 - c. Pray before the meeting!
 - d. Come with a positive attitude!

B. Confess my part of the conflict.

1. Matthew 7:3 (NLT) *"And why worry about a speck in your friend's eye when you have a log in your own?"*
2. The issue is not incompatibility, the issue is immaturity!
3. "I'm sorry. I was only thinking of myself."
4. James 4:6b (NAS) *"Therefore it says, 'GOD IS OPPOSED TO THE PROUD, BUT GIVES GRACE TO THE HUMBLE.'"*

III. Conclusion