

Series: "LIFE APPS"
Part 4: "THE UNITY APP"
Crossroads Community Church
November 4, 2018

The Truth about Conflict:

1. Conflict is _____ and sometimes _____

¹⁷ For the flesh desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the flesh. They are in conflict with each other, so that you are not to do whatever you want.

Galatians 5:17 (NIV)

2. The goal of conflict resolution is _____, not _____

Holy Father, protect them by the power of your name, the name you gave me, so that they may be one as we are one.

John 17:11b (NIV)

¹⁶ Live in harmony with one another.

Romans 12:16a (NIV)

The Biblical Blueprint for Building Unity:

1. Resist the _____ to _____ conflict

¹⁸ If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone.

Romans 12:18 (NIV)

2. It's always _____ job to _____ resolution

²³ "Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother or sister has something against you,²⁴ leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to them; then come and offer your gift.

Matthew 5:23-24 (NIV)

¹⁵ "If your brother or sister sins, go and point out their fault, just between the two of you. If they listen to you, you have won them over.

Matthew 18:15 (NIV)

3. Look at _____ role in the conflict _____

³ "Why do you look at the speck of sawdust in your brother's eye and pay no attention to the plank in your own eye? ⁴ How can you say to your brother, 'Let me take the speck out of your eye,' when all the time there is a plank in your own eye? ⁵ You hypocrite, first take the plank out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother's eye.

Matthew 7:3-5 (NIV)

4. Go _____ to the person

¹⁵ "If your brother or sister sins, go and point out their fault, just between the two of you. If they listen to you, you have won them over.

Matthew 18:15 (NIV)

➤ **Two ways we mess this up:**

a. We don't _____ to them

b. We go to _____

Steps to Take in the Conflict Resolution Conversation:

1. **The WHEN:** choose a time and place that's appropriate; if you're tired, stressed, or distracted, things rarely go well
2. **The WHY:** affirm that the relationship is important to you
3. **The WHAT:** clearly define the problem and calmly describe what you perceive the other person is doing to cause the issue
4. **The HOW:** tell how this makes you feel
 - **Listen carefully:** understand their point of view
5. **The QUESTION:** what are WE going to do to fix it?
6. **FORGIVE and MOVE FORWARD:** forgive as you've been forgiven. Forgiveness comes with specific promises:
 - I promise I won't go to others with this
 - I promise I won't hold this against you in the future