

KEEPING THE CRAZymAKERS FROM MAKING YOU CRAZY

#crazymakers: Part 6

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“‘Teacher, which is the most important commandment in the law of Moses?’ Jesus replied, ‘You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind.’ This is the first and greatest commandment. A second is equally important: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ The entire law and all the demands of the prophets are based on these two commandments.” (Matthew 22:36–40, NLT)

When people are driving you crazy- the right response is LOVE.

HOW TO DEAL WITH DIFFICULT PEOPLE

1. REJECT offenses readily.

“When a fool is annoyed, he quickly lets it be known. Sensible people will ignore an insult.” (Proverbs 12:16, GNB)

“A person’s wisdom yields patience; it is to one’s glory to overlook an offense.” (Proverbs 19:11, NIV)

“Hatred stirs up trouble; love overlooks the wrongs that others do.” (Proverbs 10:12, CEV)

2. REACT with forgiveness.

Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, for they don’t know what they are doing.” (Luke 23:34a, NLT)

“Make allowance for each other’s faults, and forgive anyone who offends you. Remember, the Lord forgave you, so you must forgive others.” (Colossians 3:13, NLT)

3. REFUSE to gossip.

“One who forgives an affront fosters friendship, but one who dwells on disputes will alienate a friend.” (Proverbs 17:9, NRSV)

“Do not do wrong to repay a wrong, and do not insult to repay an insult. But repay with a blessing, because you yourselves were called to do this so that you might receive a blessing.” (1 Peter 3:9, NCV)

4. **RESIST** playing games.

“That’s when the Pharisees plotted a way to trap him into saying something damaging...Jesus knew they were up to no good. He said, “Why are you playing these games with me? Why are you trying to trap me?...” (Matthew 22:15, 18–19, The Message)

“We reject all shameful deeds and underhanded methods. We don’t try to trick anyone or distort the word of God. We tell the truth before God, and all who are honest know this.” (2 Corinthians 4:2, NLT)

“Just as charcoal and wood keep a fire going, a quarrelsome person keeps an argument going.” (Proverbs 26:21, NCV)

5. **RESPOND** with grace.

“Ask God to bless those who persecute you—yes, ask him to bless, not to curse.” (Romans 12:14, GNB)

“If someone has done you wrong, do not repay him with a wrong. Try to do what everyone considers to be good. Do everything possible on your part to live in peace with everybody.” (Romans 12:17–18, GNB)

“Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.” (Romans 12:21, NIV)

“When people’s lives please the LORD, even their enemies are at peace with them.” (Proverbs 16:7, NLT)

Last Thought

A **HURTING** world needs a **HEALING** response.