

Elephant in the Room

Part 1—How to Discuss a Hot Topic Without Getting Heated

1 Corinthians 13:5a—⁵[Love] is not rude . . . (NIV)

1 Corinthians 13:5a—⁵Love has good manners . . . (Philipps)

1 Peter 2:17a—¹⁷Show proper respect to everyone . . . (NIV)

1. Why Treat Everyone with Respect?

- Because . . .
 - God _____ everyone

Job 33:6—⁶You and I are the same in God's sight, both of us were formed from clay. (GNT)

- Jesus _____ for everyone

1 Timothy 2:5-6—⁵For there is only one God and one Mediator who can reconcile God and People. He is the man Christ Jesus. ⁶He gave his life to purchase freedom for everyone. This is the message that God gave to the world at the proper time. (NLT)

- It show that I am a _____

Mark 12:30-31—³⁰“And you must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, all your mind, and all your strength. ³¹The second is equally important: Love your neighbor as yourself. No other commandment is greater than these.” (NLT)

1 John 4:8—⁸But if a person isn't loving and kind, it shows that he doesn't know God—for God is love. (TLB)

- What _____ comes around

Galatians 6:7—⁷Do not deceive yourselves . . . People will reap exactly what they sow. (GNT)

Proverbs 11:17—¹⁷When you're kind to others, you help yourself; when you're cruel to others, you hurt yourself. (MSG)

2. How to Show Respect to People.

- When you . . .
 - Speak to people be _____ when you're _____

Colossians 4:5-6—⁵Be tactful with those who are not Christians . . . ⁶Talk to them agreeably and with a flavor of wit and try to fit your answers to the needs of each one. (Jerusalem Bible)

Proverbs 15:23—²³What a joy it is to find just the right word for the right occasion! (GNT)

Proverbs 15:4—⁴Kind words heal and help; cutting words wound and maim. (MSG)

1 Peter 3:15b—¹⁵. . . If anybody asks why you believe as you do, be ready to tell him, and do it in a gentle and respectful way. (TLB)

- Interact with people be _____ not _____

Luke 6:31—³¹Treat others just as you want to be treated.
(CEV)

Proverbs 16:21—²¹A wise, mature person is known for his understanding. The more pleasant his words, the more persuasive he is. (GNT)

- Disagree with people be _____ not

Romans 14:12—¹²So each of us will have to answer to God. For that reason we should stop judging each other. (NCV)

- When people are rude to you be _____

Romans 12:17 & 21—¹⁷Never pay back evil for evil to anyone. Do things in such a way that everyone can see you are honorable. . . ²¹Don't let evil get the best of you but conquer evil by doing good. (NLT)

Action Step . . .

- Growth Track, 3rd Base