

Building Great Relationships, part 4
Dealing with Difficult People
Ephesians 4:26-5:1

Relationships don't get better by _____, they get better by _____.

4 choices we can make in dealing with difficult people:

1. Choose not to _____.

Getting offended is _____, but staying offending is a _____.

*Do not give the devil a foothold.
-Apostle Paul*

The day of your _____ should also be the day of your _____.

The Greek word for foothold is: _____.

It means:

Fools show their annoyance at once, but the prudent overlook an insult. Proverbs 12:16

A person's wisdom yields patience; it is to one's glory to overlook an offense. Proverbs 19:11

Hatred stirs up conflict, but love covers over all wrongs. Proverbs 10:12.

If you don't let it go it always gets _____.

2. Choose your _____

Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen. Ephesians 4:29

9 With the tongue we praise our Lord and Father, and with it we curse human beings, who have been made in God's likeness. 10 Out of the same mouth come praise and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this should not be. James 3:9-10

For the mouth speaks what the heart is full of. Luke 6:45b

These are heart issue:

Bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. (Ephesians 4:31)

3. Choose _____ before an _____.

Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you. Ephesians 4:32

Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing." Luke 23:24

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

4. . Choose to always take the _____

Romans 12:14, 17-19

"He is no fool who gives what he cannot keep, to gain what he cannot lose." -Jim Elliott