



## How to Deal with Difficult People Part 2

November 12, 2023

- I. Introduction
  - a. I must learn skills to get along with difficult people. They will always be there.
  - b. Hurting people hurt people because they are holding on to their hurts.
  - c. I will never change a difficult person through arguing, logic, reasoning, or debating. The root of the problem is emotional. What they are doing doesn't make sense. They don't see it because their emotions are reigning and ruling over their life, their relationships, their decisions, and their choices.
- II. Goals for this series for your life.
  - a. Restoration in some relationships.
    - i. God sends people to help you reach your destination.
  - b. Reconciliation in some relationships.
  - c. New Relationships
    - i. When God is wants to bless you, he sends someone to you.
    - ii. When the Devil wants to destroy you, he will send someone to you. Sometimes all it takes is one Delilah to bring you down.
- III. The Reasons we why I don't want to be in constant conflict.
  - a. **It will hinder my fellowship with God.**
    - i. I won't hear God, when God is trying to speak to us.
    - ii. I will jump church to church, marriage to marriage, but it's always someone else's fault.
  - b. **It causes spiritual damage.**
  - c. **It blocks our blessings.**
  - d. **It causes unanswered prayers.**
- IV. Practical Steps to deal with difficult people.

### Matthew 7:1-5 AMPC

Do not judge and criticize and condemn others, so that you may not be judged and criticized and condemned yourselves. 2 For just as you judge and criticize and condemn others, you will be judged and criticized and condemned, and in accordance with the measure you [use to] deal out to others, it will be dealt out again to you. 3 Why do you [a]stare from without at the [b]very small particle that is in your brother's eye but do not become aware of and consider the beam [c]of timber that is in your own eye? 4 Or how can you say to your brother, Let me get the tiny particle out of your eye, when there is the beam [d]of timber in your own eye? 5 You hypocrite, first get the beam of timber out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take the tiny particle out of your brother's eye.

- a. **Go to God first.**
  - i. Don't retaliate
  - ii. We go to God before we go to them.
    1. We want to make sure that we are not the cause of the conflict.
    2. We want to make sure that we are flexible and adjust.
- b. **Don't condemn or criticize.**

- i. When you get on social media and blast, we are allowing that person to control our conversation and the way we talk.
  - ii. The way you talk, your conversation, and confession is the root of your victory or your defeat. To the degree I am doing this to others, they are doing it to me behind my back to a greater level.
- c. Look at Yourself**
- i. Verse 5 says we must first deal with ourselves.
  - ii. If we go to God before you go to them, Then you see clearly.
  - iii. God gives you revelation in the relationships. He will show you the things to change.
- d. Focus on the positive on a person.**
- e. Pray for them.**

**1 Peter 3:9 AMPC**

**9 Never return evil for evil or insult for insult (scolding, tongue-lashing, berating), but on the contrary blessing [praying for their welfare, happiness, and protection, and truly pitying and loving them]. For know that to this you have been called, that you may yourselves inherit a blessing [from God—that you may obtain a blessing as heirs, bringing welfare and happiness and protection].**

- i. We don't wait for a feeling or an emotion to pray for them. We must make the choice.
- ii. We don't retaliate.
- iii. We bless them by praying for them.
- iv. Pray the Word of God over them.
  - 1. Happiness, protection, and etc.
- v. Spiritual maturity is revealed by your response to a difficult person.
- vi. "Know this"
- vii. Don't expect them to bless you, expect a blessing from God.

**f. Refuse to be offended!**

**Proverbs 17:9 AMPC**

**9 He who covers and forgives an offense seeks love, but he who repeats or harps on a matter separates even close friends.**

**Proverbs 12:16 AMPC**

**16 A fool's wrath is quickly and openly known, but a prudent man ignores an insult.**

- i. If you don't get over the offenses, you will never arrive.

**g. Look behind the behavior**

**Proverbs 19:11 AMPC**

**11 Good sense makes a man restrain his anger, and it is his glory to overlook a transgression or an offense.**

- i. Ask God for empathy.
- ii. The more understanding you have of the person that's hurting you, the greater patience you will have for them.
- iii. Forgive them before they ever ask for it.