

BIBLICAL RESPONSE TO CONFLICT

Selected Scriptures

THEME: OBEY CHRIST'S COMMANDS TO FORGIVE, RECONCILE, AND LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR.

4 Steps in Responding Biblically to Conflict

1. Know the source: **James 4:1-2, Mathew 7:3-5**

JAMES 4:1–2 (NASB95)

- **1** What is the source of quarrels and conflicts among you? Is not the source your pleasures that wage war in your members? **2** You lust and do not have; so you commit murder. You are envious and cannot obtain; so you fight and quarrel. You do not have because you do not ask.

MATTHEW 5:21–22 (NASB95)

- **21** “You have heard that the ancients were told, ‘YOU SHALL NOT COMMIT MURDER’ and ‘Whoever commits murder shall be liable to the court.’
- **22** “But I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother shall be guilty before the court; and whoever says to his brother, ‘You good-for-nothing,’ shall be guilty before the supreme court; and whoever says, ‘You fool,’ shall be guilty enough to go into the fiery hell.

MATTHEW 7:3–5 (NASB95)

- **3** “Why do you look at the speck that is in your brother’s eye, but do not notice the log that is in your own eye?”
- **4** “Or how can you say to your brother, ‘Let me take the speck out of your eye,’ and behold, the log is in your own eye?”
- **5** “You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your brother’s eye.”

THEME: OBEY CHRIST'S COMMANDS TO FORGIVE, RECONCILE, AND LOVE OTHERS MORE THAN OURSELVES.

4 Steps in Responding Biblically to Conflict

1. Know the source: **James 4:1-2, Mathew 7:3-5**
2. Forgiveness: **Col 3:12-13**

COLOSSIANS 3:12–13 (NASB95)

12 So, as those who have been chosen of God, holy and beloved, put on a heart of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience;

13 bearing with one another, and forgiving each other, whoever has a complaint against anyone; just as the Lord forgave you, so also should you.

ROMANS 12:17–19 (NASB95)

- **17** Never pay back evil for evil to anyone. Respect what is right in the sight of all men.
- **18** If possible, so far as it depends on you, be at peace with all men.
- **19** Never take your own revenge, beloved, but leave room for the wrath of God, for it is written, “VENGEANCE IS MINE, I WILL REPAY,” says the Lord.

THEME: OBEY CHRIST'S COMMANDS TO FORGIVE, RECONCILE, AND LOVE OTHERS MORE THAN OURSELVES.

4 Steps in Responding Biblically to Conflict

1. Know the source: **James 4:1-2, Mathew 7:3-5**
2. Forgive: **Col 3:12-14**
3. Win a brother: **Matthew 18:15**

MATTHEW 18:15 (NASB95)

- **15** “If your brother sins, go and show him his fault in private; if he listens to you, you have won your brother.

BEFORE YOU CONFRONT

- Remove the log out of you own eye.
- Ask yourself is the issue over a matter of sin or preference.
- Is this action a pattern or single occurrence?
 - If one time deal, can you cover it with grace?
- Remember to give the other person the benefit of the doubt.
- Pray and ask the Lord for help.

DURING CONFRONTATION

- Remember that you are there to win a brother or sister not to get even with them for hurting you.
- Begin with genuine love and affirmation.
- Be kind when talking
- Attack the problem not the person.
- Avoid hyperbole, “you always or you never”....
- Don’t become angry if the accusations are false.

PROVERBS

Proverbs 12:18 (NASB95)

18 There is one who speaks rashly like the thrusts of a sword, But the tongue of the wise brings healing.

Proverbs 15:1 (NASB95)**1** A gentle answer turns away wrath, But a harsh word stirs up anger.

Proverbs 16:32 (NASB95)

32 He who is slow to anger is better than the mighty, And he who rules his spirit, than he who captures a city.

IF BEING CONFRONTED:

- Do not interrupt the other person.
- Listen with mind and body.
- Clarify and repeat what they are saying to make sure you understand. Got it so what you are saying is
- Remember humility during this process, pride seeks to self-defend, blame shift, minimize and poke holes in the persons argument.
- Ask for forgiveness for any sin committed and make genuine efforts towards reconciliation in the future.

THEME: OBEY CHRIST'S COMMANDS TO FORGIVE, RECONCILE, AND LOVE OTHERS MORE THAN OURSELVES.

4 Steps in Responding Biblically to Conflict

1. Know the source: **James 4:1-2, Mathew 7:3-5**
2. Forgive: **Col 3:12-14**
3. Win a brother: **Matthew 18:15**
4. Maintain Peace: **Philippians 2:3-4**

PHILIPPIANS 2:3–4 (NASB95)

- **3** Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of mind regard one another as more important than yourselves;
- **4** do not merely look out for your own personal interests, but also for the interests of others.

APPLICATION

1. Trust the Lord during the conflict.
2. Look for your own logs.
3. Put on humility, selflessness and contentment to attack the big three.
4. Love others more than yourselves.