

# Relationships & Responsibilities

1 Timothy 5:1-2

Sunday, October 9, 2022

## Conflict is Coming

While this is very much an instructional passage, it addresses a very specific matter of the heart. There is no doubt that this will educate our mind but, if we are willing, also refine our soul.

The Blueprints for a Healthy Church - A Church That Cares & Is Caring.

1. About Each other
2. About Elderly
3. About what we have been entrusted with

## Conflict often reveals character...

There are three experiences in life that seem to reveal character.

**Trials, Opportunities**, and maybe the most revealing... **Conflict**.

Chapter 5 does not say to avoid conflict, nor does it say to pretend like it does not exist.

**Proverbs 10:18** Whoever hides hatred *has* lying lips, and whoever spreads slander *is* a fool.

## 1 Timothy 5

- Does not **allow** us to **avoid** conflict
- It does not **permit** us to **pretend** like it does not exist
- It **helps** us know how to **handle** conflict.

## **Read 1 Timothy 5:1-2**

### **What does it mean to rebuke anyways?**

**Rebuke:** To chastise with words, to reprimand, or to strongly warn. (To strike)

**Rebuke:** To correct with harshness, dominance

**You will want to rebuke...** you just are not always supposed to, especially **NOT** someone who is older than you and **rarely** someone your age or even younger.

(If you think you have the gift of rebuke, might want to spend a little extra time letting the Lord search your heart.)

- There are people whose entire ministry revolves around blasting other ministers.
- **Facebook posts that publicly condemn the bride of Christ for not sharing the same convictions. BE CAREFUL!!!**

Note: Elder up until now has been a position, it is now being addressed in the simplest way possible, age.

## The narrow path

The more involved you are in ministering to God's people the thinner the tightrope gets.

**Less mercy:** What you meant to say doesn't matter when compared to what you said.

## 1 Timothy 5:1-2 – When someone has done something wrong.

The Mind of this passage

The Heart of this passage

### **The Mindset In Conflict**

*Rebuke CAN tear someone down, exhortation always builds people up.*

Do not rebuke but EXHORT

**Exhort:** to call to your side, to give instruction, to encourage or strengthen by supporting.

#### 1. **Exhort an older man as a father**

**Rebuke:** Your son needs you.

BBQ, woodwork, etc. DO NOT WAIT TO BE ASKED!

**Exhort:** Sometimes young men need their dad to initiate and lead by being the first to engage.

(My grandfather didn't tell you to respect him, he lived in a way where you didn't have a choice but to respect him.)

What about men who don't deserve respect?

It's an upside-down kingdom, kick start their walk with Jesus.

**2 Timothy 3:1-2** But know this, that in the last days perilous times will come: For men will be lovers of themselves (**Why we don't do conflict well**)(you become the most important thing in your life), lovers of money, boasters, proud, blasphemers, **disobedient to parents**, unthankful, unholy,

a. Taking over the ushers ministry at the church I grew up in.

b. **(Science fair project)** - I didn't tell anyone but I was doing a little experiment.

#### 2. **Exhort older women as a mother**

a. A mom who needed to be told that she was overbearing, pre-judging her young adult kid, and that her callousness was causing the lack of restoration to the family.

#### 3. **Exhort younger men as brothers**

a. You speak and clash with each other in a way that does not communicate, "you better watch your back," but rather, "I have your back."

A brother in the Lord would hear me struggle, smile, and ask, **"is that what the Lord wants you to do?"**

#### 4. **Exhort younger women as sisters**

a. Ladies, if a guy attempts to encourage you in a particular direction. It does not mean he hates you, it does not mean you are failing, and it does not mean he is being mean. In fact, it means he thinks you can do more in a more effective way. **(It is a bit intimidating to try and exhort a lady.)**

Most of the time it should be the older women admonishing the younger but every now and then there will be situations that require 1 Timothy 5 kinds of interactions... and that is ok.

b. **WITH ALL PURITY!** – This one comes with a word of caution.

(In a dark parking lot 2 hours after service – I don't think so.)

No ulterior motives

Not just sexual but **affirmation**...

Like me, admire me, and make me feel good about myself.

The basic summation of these two verses is that we are to **be truly respectful and reverential** toward each other.

1 Timothy 5

- Does not **allow** us to **avoid** conflict
- It does not **permit** us to **pretend** like it does not exist
- It **helps** us know how to **handle** conflict.

Citizenship is in Heaven

When conflict is coming, we need to remember that our citizenship is in heaven.

This is no longer home and so we no longer live according to the ways of the world.

Accept that sometimes **our** thinking is wrong.

The idea that when we **are** right... that somehow gives us **a** right... to talk to people in a way that is **not** right.

## **The Heart of Conflict**

### **The mind and the heart of this passage.**

There is how to interact when conflict is necessary.

There is how we ought to view people when conflict is coming.

### **Imagine two different settings**

1. Someone asks if you could meet up and talk over something. You get there and coffee is made, there is somewhere to sit down, and their demeanor is gentle and calm. – **however this goes, it's going to be ok.**
2. The other setting is; someone asks if you could meet up and talk about something. Only, this time when you arrive, you open the door and they have boxing gloves on, are putting their mouthpiece in, and their eyes are like lasers burning a hole right through you.
  - a. Not that we put on visible battle attire but, in our minds, we are suiting up for war rather than sitting down to a discussion.
  - b. In your mind, are you sitting down with someone you love OR are you about to fight over something you want?

(Setting bricks on the wall or taking them off. self-preservation, lovers of self)

### It's not our mind... it's our heart

**Luke 6:45** "A good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth good; and an evil man out of the evil treasure of his heart brings forth evil. **For out of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaks.**

### Grieving the heart of God

Don't you treat special things with special treatment – wash your car, care for your dog.

**James 3:9-10** With it we bless our God and Father, and with it we curse men, who have been made in the similitude of God. Out of the same mouth proceed blessing and cursing. My brethren, these things ought not to be so.

**Slang Term, slaty:** Being upset over something small or insignificant. Making little things big things.

**Let's be a little less salty**

### Luke 14:1-6

*Some people will care more about their cattle and the rules rather than people and what's right.*

**What's going on inside? What is fueling the coming discussion?**

**1 Corinthians 16:14** Let all *that you do* be done with love.

If you do not love (*care about them and their well-being*) then it's probably best to keep it to yourself until you come to a place of compassion and care.

### \*Do you want to talk or do you want to be heard?

**Check Your Motive:** Do you want to be heard? Is it in your heart to want the Lord to bring healthy change to the lives of God's people through you?

Then speak in a way that someone can receive what you have to say.

Yes, they should be bigger than that. But it is hard to hear someone who doesn't respect you. - *No one cares what you know until they know that you care.*

### The heart of this passage deals with perspective. (Heart then Mind?)

Exhort them like they are your father, mother, sister, or brother.

Either;

1. You don't treat your family right
2. You don't see God's people rightly

When you have kids... does it not grieve your heart to watch them bicker and fight against each other. **Let's not grieve the heart of God.**

### Time for a little experiment

Imagine what life would be like if **YOU** spoke the truth... in love... to everyone... every time. Try and experiment... speak with kindness, in love for one week. Just try it and see what happens. – Test God's Word!

### **How we speak to people will influence how we feel about people.**

It's really hard to keep hating people you speak respectfully to or about.

- Speak about them
- Speak to them
- Pray for them

**Again... perspective.**

### **How does God see that person?**

**Start looking at them the same way He does.**

**Not to excuse strange or bad behavior, but to understand it.**

- Mean people are usually just hurting people
- Scared people are usually just under-encouraged people
- Prideful people are usually just insecure people
- All people are just sinful people whom Jesus died for and desires to see them saved and sanctified. **Do you?**

Seeing people as fathers, mothers, brothers, and sisters.

Maybe there are some aunts, uncles, and cousins in there somewhere.

Big family reunion every Sunday!

Do not rebuke but exhort

Don't knock someone down but build them up.

It's what Jesus is all about – Redeeming the difficult and walking with the wayward.