

CONFLICT: BUILDING FOR BLESSING

MAY 2, 2021

I. INTRODUCTION TO CONFLICT

A. God will often do the structural before He does the supernatural.

B. How you approach conflict determines how you build for blessing.

1. We all face conflict.
2. Conflict is a normal part of life.
 - How you handle conflict can be the quickest way to destroy a relationship.
 - How you handle conflict can be the strongest way build a relationship.

C. Conflict is like demo.

1. When someone tears down what you have built up, you have conflict.
2. Conflict can end with destruction, desolation, or restoration.

II. THREE KEYS TO CONSTRUCTIVE CONFLICT

1. Let Conflict Build Up and Not Break Down

A. Conflict can provide a foundation for building stronger relationships.

Acts 6:1 In those days when the number of disciples was increasing, the Hellenistic Jews among them complained against the Hebraic Jews because their widows were being overlooked in the daily distribution of food.

- Increase comes with issues.

B. Conflict is natural part of building for blessing.

Acts 6:7 So the word of God spread. The number of disciples in Jerusalem increased rapidly, and a large number of priests became obedient to the faith.

- When you avoid conflict, you miss out on the blessings it can bring.

C. Conflict exposes what might be under the surface.

- What you ignore is what will erode.

2. Let Conflict Bring Us Together and Not Pull Us Apart

Acts 6:1 In those days when the number of disciples was increasing, the Hellenistic Jews among them complained against the Hebraic Jews because their widows were being overlooked in the daily distribution of food.

A. The early church decided that what used to divide is now secondary to what unites.

Mark 3:25 If a house is divided against itself, that house cannot stand.

B. What divides our house?

- When we complain
- When we compare
- When we compete
- When we carry it

3. Let Conflict Open the Door and Not Lock Down Our Hearts

Acts 6:5 This proposal pleased the whole group.

A. You have to be willing to open the door.

B. Start at Home

C. Do Demo with Reno In Mind

D. Get God's Guidance.

- Seeking God's heart will change yours.
- Build Using the Architect's Blueprints.

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

Romans 5:10 For if, while we were God's enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through his life!

Romans 5:6-8 You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous person, though for a good person someone might possibly dare to die. But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.