



“Remembering God in Conflict”

January 25, 2026

1 Peter 2:18-23, James 1:19

Introduction:

Are there any relationships in your life in need of conflict resolution and reconciliation?

A Framework For Resolving Conflicts :

1. **Go Higher** - How can I find, and honor God in this situation? How could God be glorified in this situation? (1 Cor. 10:31)

2. **Get Real** - How can I own my part of the conflict? (Matthew 7:3-5, James 4:1-3)

3. **Gently Engage** - How can I help others see their own part in the conflict? (Gal. 6:1, James 5:20)

4. **Get Together** - How can I offer forgiveness and arrive at reconciled relationship? (*Resolving Everyday Conflict* - Ken Sande)

Go Higher (1 Peter 2:18-23):

Servants, be subject to your masters with all respect, not only to the good and gentle but also to the unjust. For this is a gracious thing, when, mindful of God, one endures sorrows while suffering unjustly. For what credit is it if, when you sin and are beaten for it, you endure? But if when you do good and suffer for it you endure, this is a gracious thing in the sight of God. For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in his steps. He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth. When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly.

- When conflict heats up, our conscious awareness of God usually goes down.
- Glorifying God in conflict is probably not our first thought or response.
- We can retrain our brain, to actually turn to God, as the tensions are rising.
- Could we see conflict as opportunity to reflect the character of God? (Ex. 34:6-7)
- **How sensitive are you to the Holy Spirit? (James 1:19)**

Go Higher:

Being mindful of God, and the voice of the Holy Spirit, at the onset of conflict, we are choosing to think of conflict as an opportunity and privilege to imitate the character and love of God toward the other person.



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What does this look like?

1. Stop arguing and pray with the other person....
2. Stop the disagreement and express your need to walk away for a time. (Be intentional to re-engage when you have walked through these four steps.
3. Pray out loud.....
4. After praying, you might ask some clarifying questions.....

Get Real (Matthew 7:3-5):

“Judge not, that you be not judged. For with the judgment you pronounce you will be judged, and with the measure you use it will be measured to you. Why do you see the speck that is in your brother’s eye, but do not notice the log that is in your own eye? Or how can you say to your brother’s. “Let me take the speck out of your eye”, when there is the log in your own eye? 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.”

- If your in conflict, there is something you can grow in, something God wants to teach you.
- Judging others has a way of turning the attention of off our sin or struggles.
- This isn’t to take responsibility off of the other person, but genuinely see how I have contributed to the problem.
- Blind spots can cloud our judgement and perspectives of the situation.

Get Real:

Before we seek to gently show the other person how their words or actions have contributed to the conflict, we take time seek counsel from other and from the Holy Spirit

What does this look like?

1. Be quick to listen and not attack what you might see initially in the other person.
2. Pray.....This might happen in the moment, but can also be something to find quiet space for later. Be intentional to set aside time ASAP to pray this way....
3. Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to search your heart (Psalm 139:23-24)
4. Seek counsel from others who might have a better perspective on any blind spots.

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