



Pastor Rick & Judy Mandl
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 Week of May 14, 2023

Reducing Conflicts In Relationships

¹In the same way, you wives must accept the authority of your husbands. Then, even if some refuse to obey the Good News, your godly lives will speak to them without any words. They will be won over ²by observing your pure and reverent lives. ³Don't be concerned about the outward beauty of fancy hairstyles, expensive jewelry, or beautiful clothes. ⁴You should clothe yourselves instead with the beauty that comes from within, the unfading beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is so precious to God. ⁵This is how the holy women of old made themselves beautiful. They put their trust in God and accepted the authority of their husbands. ⁶For instance, Sarah obeyed her husband, Abraham, and called him her master. You are her daughters when you do what is right without fear of what your husbands might do. ⁷In the same way, you husbands must give honor to your wives. Treat your wife with understanding as you live together. She may be weaker than you are, but she is your equal partner in God's gift of new life. Treat her as you should so your prayers will not be hindered. ⁸Finally, all of you should be of one mind. Sympathize with each other. Love each other as brothers and sisters.[a] Be tenderhearted, and keep a humble attitude. ⁹Don't repay evil for evil. Don't retaliate with insults when people insult you. Instead, pay them back with a blessing. That is what God has called you to do, and he will grant you his blessing. ¹⁰For the Scriptures say, 'If you want to enjoy life and see many happy days, keep your tongue from speaking evil and your lips from telling lies. ¹¹Turn away from evil and do good. Search for peace, and work to maintain it. ¹²The eyes of the Lord watch over those who do right, and his ears are open to their prayers. But the Lord turns his face against those who do evil.'

1 Peter 3:1-12

A Word To Husbands And Wives

1. God's Plan For _____ Requires _____
2. Godly Lives Are A _____ To _____
3. God's Plan For _____ Requires _____

A Word To All Christians

1. Be Of _____ (Harmonious)
2. _____ With One Another
3. _____ Each Other As Brothers And
4. Be _____
5. Keep A _____ Attitude
6. Don't Repay _____ For _____

A P.S. From Psalm 34

1. Watch Your _____
2. Avoid _____ And Do _____
3. Pursue _____

Memory Verse
 "Do all that you can to live in peace with everyone."
 Romans 12:18

MY NEXT STEP IS TO . . .

- Invite Jesus to by my Lord and Savior for the first time today
- Memorize Romans 12:18
- Do my best to apply the principles of 1 Peter 3:1-12 to my relationships with others this week
- Get the most out of today's message by attending my Life Group





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1 Peter 3:1-12

A Word To Husbands And Wives

1. God's Plan For **Marriage** Requires **Submission**
2. Godly Lives Are A **Testimony** To **Unbelievers**
3. God's Plan For **Marriage** Requires **Honor**

A Word To All Christians

1. Be Of **One Mind** (Harmonious)
2. **Sympathize** With One Another
3. **Love** Each Other As Brothers And Sisters
4. Be **Tenderhearted**
5. Keep A **Humble** Attitude
6. Don't Repay **Evil** For **Evil**

A P.S. From Psalm 34

1. Watch Your **Mouth**
2. Avoid **Evil** And Do **Good**
3. Pursue **Peace**

Memory Verse

"Do all that you can to live in peace with everyone."
 Romans 12:18

MY NEXT STEP IS TO . . .

- Invite Jesus to be my Lord and Savior for the first time today
- Memorize Romans 12:18
- Do my best to apply the principles of 1 Peter 3:1-12 to my relationships with others this week
- Get the most out of today's message by attending my Life Group



Discussion Questions - Week #4

LIFEGROUPS

QUICK REVIEW

Thinking back to the weekend sermon, "Reducing Conflict In Relationships," summarize the main point in a sentence or two.

Was there anything you heard for the first time or that caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

Do you plan on taking any practical steps this week in response to the message?

GETTING STARTED

- In the message this weekend, Pastor Rick and Judy described scripture as a magnifying glass to evaluate ourselves and others by God's standards. Why do you think we're so prone to evaluate others rather than ourselves?

- What's an adjustment you've made in your life as a result of seeing it in God's Word?

- What in scripture has made you uncomfortable that you must pay attention to?

DIGGING DEEPER

1. One of the best, if not most challenging, examples of submission in the bible is found in the story of Abraham's willingness to sacrifice his son Isaac. Read Genesis 22:1-19. What stands out to you?

If God knows everything (we call this omniscience), why did he need to test Abraham?

What do you think enabled Abraham to submit to God's command, even at the potential cost of Isaac?

How did Isaac demonstrate an attitude of submission?

How does Isaac point forward to Jesus?

Can you think of an area in your life where you have had to submit to God in a costly manner?

2. Peter quotes from Psalm 34, stating, "Whoever of you loves life and desires to see many good days, keep your tongue from evil and your lips from telling lies." James, the brother of Jesus, also spends a good deal of time in his letter talking about the importance of the tongue. Read James 3:1-12. To what does James compare the tongue?

Which example resonates with you the most?

Do you think it's possible to gain greater control over your tongue? If so, how?

How might controlling your tongue lead to the good life that Peter and the Psalmist speak of?

FOR PRACTICE

☞ Earlier in the book of James, in chapter one he states, "My dear brothers and sisters, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry." Picking up on this theme, in *Life Together*, Dietrich Bonhoeffer stated, "Just as loving God begins with listening to his Word, so the beginning of love for the brethren is learning to listen to them." What better way of reducing conflict in our relationships than through the practice of attentive listening? Look for opportunities this week to give generous space to others by listening.

SHARE IT

☞ Is there anything you heard or learned in the weekend message or Life Group this week that you want to share with someone you know?

PRAYER REQUESTS

☞ Pray for ERBC as we seek a school or other organization to lease our Fellowship Hall. Pray for a blessed partnership with a lessee who can contribute financially to resource our ministries and opportunities for us to bless and minister to them as tenants.