

# Responding To Conflict

## In responding to conflict:

### LAW

- is comfortable with Conflict
- revels in Competition
- goes to Court

### OR

### LOVE

- seeks **Clarity**
- desires **Communication**
- hungers for **Communion**

*“But we know that the law is good if one uses it lawfully, knowing this: that the law is not made for the righteous person...” 1 Timothy 1:8-9a*

<p>1. Declaring “You” statements. “You always...” “You never...” “You can’t/won’t...”</p> <p>2. Focus on my feelings, needs, desires, and hurts.</p> <p>3. Assumes “I am right and you are wrong.”</p> <p>4. Intense emotions are experienced.</p>	<p>1. <i>“<b>LOVE</b> suffers long and is kind...” 1 Cor. 13:4</i></p> <p>2. <i>“...<b>LOVE</b> does not envy...” 1 Cor. 13:4</i></p> <p>3. <i>“...<b>LOVE</b> does not parade itself, is not puffed up...” 1 Cor. 13:4</i></p> <p>4. <i>“...[<b>LOVE</b>] does not behave rudely, does not seek its own, is not provoked, thinks no evil...” 1 Cor. 13:5</i></p>	<p><b>1. Using “I” statements.</b> <b>“I have seen...” “I am concerned...”</b></p> <p>Romans 14. <i>But why do you judge your brother? Or why do you show contempt for your brother? For we shall all stand before the judgment seat of Christ...So then each of us shall give an account of himself to God.</i></p> <p><b>2. Focus on solutions for both of us.</b></p> <p>Philippians 4. <i>Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy—meditate on these things.</i></p> <p>Philippians 2. <i>Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others.</i></p> <p>Hebrews 10. <i>And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works.</i></p> <p><b>3. Assumes “I don’t know everything” and so asks questions.</b></p> <p>1 Corinthians 8. <i>Knowledge puffs up, but love edifies. And if anyone thinks that he knows anything, he knows nothing yet as he ought to know.</i></p> <p><b>4. Deemphasizes emotions.</b></p> <p>James 3. <i>But if you have bitter envy and self-seeking in your hearts, do not boast and lie against the truth. This wisdom does not descend from above, but is earthly, sensual, demonic. For where envy and self-seeking exist, confusion and every evil thing are there. But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality and without hypocrisy.</i></p> <p>1 Peter 2. <i>...Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that you should follow His steps:...who, when He was reviled, did not revile in return; when He suffered, He did not threaten, but committed Himself to Him who judges righteously...</i></p>
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LAW	OR	LOVE
<p>5. Avoidance of the problem.</p> <p>6. High potential for damage to relationship.</p> <p>7. Win/lose model followed.</p> <p>8. No desire to work with the partner.</p>	<p>5. "...[<b>LOVE</b>] does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth..." 1 Cor. 13:6</p> <p>6. "...[<b>LOVE</b>] bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things." 1 Cor. 13:7</p> <p>7. "<b>LOVE</b> never fails." 1 Cor.13:8</p> <p>8. "And now abide faith, hope, love, these three; but the greatest of these is <b>LOVE</b>." 1 Cor. 13:13</p>	<p><b>5. Deal with the problem immediately.</b></p> <p>Ephesians 4. "Be angry, and do not sin": do not let the sun go down on your wrath, nor give place to the devil.</p> <p><b>6. Potential for relationship growth.</b></p> <p>Galatians 6. Brethren, if a man is overtaken in any trespass, you who are spiritual restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness, considering yourself lest you also be tempted. Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ.</p> <p><b>7. Win/win model followed.</b></p> <p>Matthew 5. Blessed are the merciful, For they shall obtain mercy...Blessed are the peacemakers, For they shall be called sons of God. ... if you bring your gift to the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar, and go your way. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift.</p> <p>Matthew 18. Moreover if your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault between you and him alone. If he hears you, you have gained your brother.</p> <p><b>8. Desire to explore the problem together.</b></p> <p>Philippians 3. ...one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus. Therefore let us, as many as are mature, have this mind;...let us walk by the same rule, let us be of the same mind.</p>