

7 BIBLICAL STEPS TO RESOLVING CONFLICT

1. **TAKE THE INITIATIVE**

“If you’re standing before the altar in the Temple, giving an offering to God, and you suddenly remember someone has something against you, leave your offering there beside the altar. Go at once and first be reconciled to that person. Then come and offer your gift to God.” Matt. 5:23-24 (NLT)

2. **CONFESS MY PART** in the conflict.

“Why do you notice the little piece of dust in your friend’s eye, but you don’t notice the big piece of wood in your own eye? First, take the wood out of your own eye. Then you will see clearly to take the dust out of your friend’s eye.” Matt. 7:3 (NCV)

3. **LISTEN** for the hurt.

“Be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to get angry.” James 1:19 (NLT)

4. Consider their **PERSPECTIVE**.

“Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others. Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus.” Philippians 2:4-5 (NIV)

5. Tell the truth **TACTFULLY**.

“Reckless words pierce like a sword, but the tongue of the wise brings healing.” Proverbs 12:18 (NIV)

“Do not use harmful words, but only helpful words, the kind that build up and provide what is needed.” Ephesians 4:29 (TEV)

6. Fix the **PROBLEM** not the **BLAME**.

“You must rid yourselves of all such things as these: anger, rage, malice, slander, and filthy language from your lips.” Col. 3:8 (NIV)

“Let us stop passing judgment on one another. Instead, make up your mind not to put any stumbling block or obstacle in your brother’s way.” Romans 14:13 (NIV)

7. Focus on **RECONCILIATION** not **RESOLUTION**.

“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called the children of God!” Matthew 5:9 (NIV)