

# **Fellowship:**

## **Biblical Conflict Resolution**

When friendship are stressed (and ways to prevent tension):

- 1) Look to yourself first as the perpetrator. “What can I do better?”
- 2) Know your vices; realize that there are multiple ways to err. Isolation - Proverbs 18:1. Anger – Proverbs 15:1, 18; Lack of Discretion – Proverbs 11:22; Being Quarrelsome/ Fretful – Proverbs 19:13; 21:9, 19. Being Divisive – Romans 16:17-18
- 3) Stop talking. Proverbs 10:19; 18:2. Realize the power of words. Proverbs 18:21, 12:18, 25:11.
- 4) Treasure time together, but don't overindulge. Proverbs 25:17
- 5) Listen before you respond. Prov. 18:13
- 6) Don't believe everything you hear. Prov. 18:17
- 7) Appreciate constructive criticism. Proverbs 19:20, 20:30; 15:10

- a. When is the correct setting? Not texting, not usually in a group setting.
- b. See through fumbling words and faulty execution to people's hearts. Luke 17:3: Rebuke should lead to forgiveness. Proverbs 9:9-10; Hebrews 12:11. Realize that our natural reaction when offended is to think that people are sinning.

8) Understand that you only see one perspective, and are predisposed to think it's PERFECT.  
Proverbs 21:2

9) Work out problems. Ephesians 4:26-27. Hebrews 12:14-15.  
When it comes to conflict, live by James 3 and Matthew 18:15-20.

## **7 Practical Guidelines for Dialogue.**

- 1) Kill absolutes.
- 2) Focus on them, not you.
- 3) Before you say something, ask yourself if it is something you would want widely broadcasted.
- 4) Be transparent.
- 5) Realize that the few sentences you say are the only glimpse that people are getting in to your heart.  
Matthew 12:34
- 6) Learn to listen.
- 7) Talk less, say more.