

## **It's Personal: Conflict Resolution**

Conflict is a tool that will either make or break our relationships.

How do I navigate conflict in a godly way?

### **1. Understand that I am called to be a peacemaker.** (Matthew 5:9 NIV)

Peacemaking is not:

- **Absence** of conflict.
- **Avoidance** of conflict.
- **Appeasing** all parties.

You can't control how others respond, but you CAN control how YOU respond to conflict. (Romans 12:18 NIV)

### **2. Pursue reconciliation as the primary goal.** (Matthew 18:15-17 NLT)

Keep the conflict between you and the other person. (Matthew 18:15a NLT; Proverbs 6:16-19 NIV)

- When you approach someone or are approached:
  - Start with prayer.
  - Check your own attitude.
  - Fill the air with good intentions.
  - Refuse to become defensive.
  - Follow the 101% principle.

Have wise and godly peers to bring perspective. (Matthew 18:16 NLT)

Invite godly mentors to mediate. (Matthew 18:17a NLT)

Create healthy boundaries. (Matthew 18:17b NLT; Romans 12:18 NIV)