

September 24, 2023 Worship Service Pastor Bruce Adrian WeAreLifeBridge.com

RELATIONSHIPS

Ruined by Sin, Restored by Grace

Lesson Three • Ephesians 4:25-32

Ruined by Unresolved Conflict

Relationships Ruined and Restored

Relationships are ruined when you live with unresolved <u>CONFLICT</u>, but are restored when you resolve conflict God's way.

Resolving Conflict God's Way

1. Be HONEST! v. 25

With Whom Will I Have My Worst Conflicts?

The severity of a conflict is often related to the <u>PROXIMITY</u> of the offender more than it is related to the magnitude of the offense.

2. Control Your ANGER! V. 26

Two Kinds of Anger

- External anger that BLOWS UP in rage.
- Internal anger that CLAMS UP in resentment.

Why It's Crucial to Control Your Anger

Because uncontrolled anger leads to uncontrolled SPEECH (v. 29-31).

3. Resolve Conflict QUICKLY! V. 27

Why It's Crucial to Resolve Conflict Quickly

Because Satan seeks a place in your heart called **GRUDGE**.

4. Demonstrate God's GRACE! V. 32

Resolving Conflict by Grace

- See conflict as an opportunity to live out the GOSPEL.
- When possible, overlook the offense in LOVE.
- > Seek their sanctification, not your VINDICATION.
- ➤ Initiate reconciliation through <u>FORGIVENESS</u>.
- Don't give up; give God's grace a chance to TRIUMPH.

Restoring a Relationship

Are you living with unresolved conflict with anyone?

Then <u>GO</u> to that person and seek to resolve the conflict God's way with God's grace!