

2) _____ ... To The _____.

"Go," Jesus says. Take Action. ... It is important to remember that when you approach the other person, you may not even do it well. You may stutter and stammer and stumble over your words. Don't let that stop you. It is important to try to use as much skill and wisdom as you can. If you wait until you can do it perfectly, you will never go at all. Doing it flawlessly is not the main concern. The main thing is to go.

(John Ortberg, *Everybody's Normal Till You Get To Know Them*)

So if you are offended, you have to take the steps to clear it up. You can either give forgiveness immediately without saying a thing or you go to that person according to Matthew 18 and get it resolved. Either is fine. Either you forgive and let it go or you get it right. The third is not an option—which is to just bear a grudge and then let it sit. That is not an option. That is unbiblical.

(Wayne Cordeiro, *For the Sake of the Call Tape Series*)

3) _____ ... A _____.

The ... question to ask is, "What do I want?" It is an amazing dynamic: Once people get to a certain level of anger, their only focus is to win an argument or to inflict pain or to get away. They forget to ask a crucial question: What would I like the outcome of the situation to be? What lies in accord with my desires and deepest values? (John Ortberg, *Everybody's Normal Till You Get To Know Them*)

4) _____ ... Your _____.

5) _____ ... For Their _____.

6) _____ ... The _____.

7) _____ ... _____.

If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone.
(Romans 12:18)

February 23/24, 2019
Michael Yearley

Conflict

The Path To Growth

The Partnership

Loving People

Doing Relationships A Whole New Way

Conflict

The Path To Growth

1) _____ ... Is _____.

Ephesians 4:1-3, 31-32

Conflict is the process we go through and the price we pay for intimacy.

(Gary Oliver, Executive Director of the Center for Marriage and Family Studies at John Brown University)

The extent to which two people in a relationship can bring up and resolve issues is a critical marker of the soundness of the relationship.

(Henry Cloud & John Townsend, *How To Have That Difficult Conversation You've Been Avoiding*)

The acts of the flesh are obvious: ... hatred, discord, ... selfish ambition, dissensions, factions. (Galatians 5:19-20)

Barnabas wanted to take John, also called Mark, with them, but Paul did not think it wise to take him, because he had deserted them in Pamphylia and had not continued with them in the work. They had such a sharp disagreement that they parted company. (Acts 15:37-39)

2) _____ ...

Is _____ An _____.

Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to your brother; then come and offer your gift. (Matthew 5:23-24)

3) _____ Towards _____ ...

Is _____.

Dealing with conflict always involves a series of choices. With each choice, our natural inclination is to handle the conflict in a destructive manner. (John Ortberg, *Everybody's Normal Till You Get To Know Them*)

4) _____ ... Can _____ Or

_____.

The interesting observation I have made personally and pastorally about relationships is that the level of the relationship will be determined by the way those involved respond to conflict. I really believe that. ... When a conflict is not dealt with properly, the relationship can regress to a previous level. When a conflict occurs and the response is in a right manner, then the relationship can progress to a higher level. So it's the response to conflict that usually determines if the relationship gets better or if it begins to disintegrate. (John Maxwell, *Relationships – The First Step To Success*, Maximum Impact Tape, Volume 5, Number 10)

If there is one lesson I have learned from my years of research it is that a lasting marriage results from a couple's ability to resolve conflicts that are inevitable in any relationship. (John Gottman, *Why Marriages Succeed or Fail*)

5) _____ ... Is _____.

Conflict

How To Have A Clarifying Conversation

1) _____ ... With A _____.