

Solving Disagreements WITHOUT Arguing

Our Mission: To take as many people to Heaven as we can before we die. Period.

1. Having conflicts does not mean you married the wrong person. Conflicts affirm that you are unique.

For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago. **Ephesians 2:10 NLT**

Oh yes, you shaped me first inside, then out; you formed me in my mother's womb.
Psalm 139:13 MSG

2. When we have conflicts, we feel the need to talk. Instead, request a listening time.

Dear brothers, don't ever forget that it is best to listen much, speak little, and not become angry; for anger doesn't make us good... **James 1:19 TLB**

- a. Ask your spouse if you can listen to them first.
- b. Hear them out.
- c. Withhold your opinion.
- d. Make sure you restate what they are saying so that you understand their perspective.
- e. Respect their perspective...this shows you respect them.

"...husbands, live with your wives in an understanding way..." **1 Peter 3:7 ESV**

3. Now that you've both listened to each other, it is time to work together as friends to find a solution. This involves learning to compromise.

...you must clothe yourselves with tenderhearted mercy, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. **Colossians 3:12 NLT**

Three possibilities:

- a. "meeting in the middle"
- b. "meeting on your side"
- c. "meeting later"

Two people are better off than one, for they can help each other succeed. **Ecclesiastes 4:9 NLT**

4. When you learn to affirm each other's ideas and perspectives, you respect one another.

...every husband must love his wife as he loves himself, and wives should respect their husbands. **Ephesians 5:33 GW**

Message Notes: The Holy Bible, New Living Translation, God's Word translation. The Living Bible, paraphrased edition. The Message, by Eugene Peterson. Things I Wish I'd Known Before We Got Married, by Gary Chapman.