



NOV. 26/27

CRITICISM & CONFLICT

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We all have conflict in our lives; in fact, it's inevitable. But the best way to resolve conflict and respond to criticism is in a way that honors God and protects our relationships.

Discussion Questions

1. How would you describe yourself when it comes to conflict: an Avoider, a Spewer, or a Worrier? Would other people agree?
2. How often do you ask yourself, "What part am I playing in this conflict?" A lot of us don't realize that it's our words, our mood, our defensiveness, or off-putting language that's the source of conflict. How can you become more self-aware of the role you play in conflict?
3. **Read James 1:19-20** and **Proverbs 15:1**. How quick are you to get angry or criticize? How could a gentle answer change a tense situation?
4. **Read Romans 18:14-21**. In his message, Jason talked about three ways to respond to criticism and deal with conflict in a way that honors God: live at peace, never repay evil for evil, and leave room for God to work. Which one do you find hardest to do? Why?

Challenge

This week, think of 1-2 practical steps you can take to start applying all three of the above responses to your life. Then, put them into practice as conflict arises. Pray that God would help you handle conflict and criticism in a way that honors him.

Commit to Memory

Do all that you can to live in peace with everyone. **Romans 12:18**