

Questions Asked

How to deal with difficult people.

How does a Christian Believer stay in open communication with a close relative that is vehemently opposed to all Christian living, church, values, morals, etc. Is there ever a time when we are to shake the dust off our sandals and walk away?

Biblical vs cultural gentleness (tips, tricks, and techniques in communication).

Critical race theory (gnostic social justice) versus Biblical (Racial reconciliation and unity in Christ)

Critical race theory
Social justice
Civic duty

Responsibility of caring for elderly/aging parents

Sexual addiction
Loss of family
Divorce/separation

Self-deprecation vs Christian hedonism

Complacency
Public vs. homeschool now days

Are believers being disobedient by not going to a mission field? Matt. 28:18-20
Proverbs seem very clear about debt. Is it sinful to go into debt?

The founders of our nation took up arms to fight against tyranny, and we honor them for that. Would it ever be right to take up arms to restore our nation? If so, how would we know when? The longer we wait, the bigger the task.

How should a Christian view gun control?

How to Deal with Difficult People

2 Timothy 2:23-26 (NIV)

²³ Don't have anything to do with foolish and stupid arguments (speculation), because you know they produce quarrels.

²⁴ And the Lord's servant must not quarrel; instead, he must be kind to everyone, able to teach, not resentful (patient when wronged).

²⁵ Those who oppose him he must gently instruct, in the hope that God will grant them repentance leading them to a knowledge of the truth,

²⁶ and that they will come to their senses and escape from the trap of the devil, who has taken them captive to do his will.

1. Don't _____ with them.
 - a. Be shallow
 - b. Take nothing personally

2. Be _____.
 - a. Be crazy positive
 - b. Compliment them

3. Skillful at _____.
 - a. Speak in a way that always points your direction rather than at them.
 - b. Locate their issue and speak into it.
 - c. Ask questions in a way that will require them to come up with their own answers.

4. Don't _____.
 - a. Have pity

5. Gently _____.
 - a. Appeal to their conscience.

Biblical vs Cultural Gentleness (Tips, Tricks, and Techniques in Communication)

Tips

Hurting people hurt.

People are a product of their past.

Not everyone believes the same way you do.

Tricks

If you listen, and ask questions to keep them talking, your enemy will love you.

Be humble; it is no fun to fight someone who is down.

Technique

Combat with positive answers.

Combat with compliments.

Be an offensive talker rather than defensive.

Abusive Communication

Ask yourself.....

dominating?.... monopolizing or controlling conversation.
interrupting?.... with a competing spirit.
nagging?.... finding fault incessantly.
complaining?.... making crisis or problem dominated conversation.
criticizing?.... dwelling on the negative.
cutting?.... making jabbing, sarcastic remarks.
ridiculing?.... making another the object of laughter.
arguing?.... disagreeing and disputing.
moralizing?.... lecturing and giving unsolicited advice.
generalizing?.... simplifying or making light of real concerns.
countering the one who confronts with words of denial?
evading self-examination by focusing on the faults of the other?
blaming my responses on the actions of the other person?
bringing up the other's mistakes from the past?
rationalizing my behavior because of the circumstances?
arguing about a trivial point to evade the real issue?
changing the subject without responding to what was communicated?
refusing to talk or respond?
hiding in work activities to avoid intimacy?
choosing to ignore grievances and allowing my own feelings to fester?
lying?.... knowingly giving wrong information/impressions.
blaming?.... shifting responsibility to another.
flattering?.... complimenting with hidden motives.
gossiping?.... telling rumors about others.
boasting?.... bragging and flattering myself.
diverting?.... changing the subject.
pouting?.... refusing to communicate verbally.
patronizing?.... pretending to agree or give support.
discriminating?.... choosing to hear only what I want to hear.
misleading?.... communicating only partial truth.

Dysfunctional Communication

Passive Communication

A person with a passive communication style does not express their honest feelings or desires.

A passive communicator defers to others' opinions instead of voicing their own by saying things such as: "I don't care, "It doesn't matter," "You decide."

A passive person often allows their own rights to be violated, which ultimately leads to feelings of not being understood.

A passive person might avoid a fight but they destroy an emotional connection within a relationship because of their retreat.

Aggressive Communication

A person with an aggressive style demands that their opinions, desires, and needs are met.

An aggressive communicator rarely refers to others. Their message is, "What I want is more important than what you want."

An aggressive communicator often tries to dominate others by criticizing or blaming.

An aggressive communicator has a low tolerance for frustration, interrupts frequently, and does not listen well.

An aggressive communicator tries to hold other people responsible for their own feelings.

An aggressive communicator may leave the other person with hurt feelings and that their ideas are not valid.

The aggressor may get their way, but only by destroying trust and intimacy within the relationship.

Passive-Aggressive Communication

A person with a passive-aggressive communication style will forfeit their rights and desires initially but then will subtly convey anger or seek vengeance later.

A passive-aggressive communicator will avoid conflict, but will then use tactics to make the other party wish they had seen things their way.

A passive-aggressive communicator typically behaves passively to a person's face, but then becomes aggressive when the person is not around.

A passive-aggressive communicator's message is, "I will appear cooperative, but you should really do things my way."

Assertive Communication

1. An assertive communicator expresses his feelings, rights and desires without violating the rights of others.
2. An assertive communicator asks clearly and directly for what they want, while being considerate to others.
3. An assertive communicator displays that both of the couples' needs and desires matter; so let's find a solution that meets both needs..
4. Assertive communication is a means of relating authentically with others, which fosters a sense of connectedness and intimacy.
5. When one partner is aggressive and the other is passive, the aggressive partner tends to dominate the relationship, which results in low levels of intimacy.
6. When both partners use an aggressive style, their relationship is likely to be conflicted, and characterized by low intimacy.