

Noticing the Flesh in Conflict

As we think about how we act when we have disagreements, we must identify how the flesh tempts us to compromise our convictions to win the argument. When we know the temptation we can see the signs and choose a different path.

Scripture(s): 2 Corinthians 10:7-18

I. The first sign that we are seeking to solve conflict in the flesh rather than the Spirit is we are willing to sacrifice _____ to win. We must be committed to character first, the other person second, and winning a third.

Ephesians 4:24-27 24 and put on the new self, which in the likeness of God has been created in righteousness and holiness of the truth. 25 Therefore, laying aside falsehood, speak truth each one of you with his neighbor, for we are members of one another. 26 BE angry, and yet do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, 27 and do not give the devil an opportunity.

✓ Be willing to lose if it means _____ who you are to win.

II. The second sign that we are seeking to solve conflict in the flesh rather than the Spirit is we use hurtful _____ to make our points. Guard against comparisons or exaggerations to _____ someone to listen to you.

✓ Have a clear division in your mind between the language of _____ and the language of Scripture and logic.

III. The third sign that we are seeking to solve conflict in the flesh rather than the Spirit is feeling the need to "prove" that we are the one who is _____. Desiring the approval of others appeals to two parts of our flesh: _____ and frustration.

Galatians 1:10 10 For am I now seeking the favor of men, or of God? Or am I striving to please men? If I were still trying to please men, I would not be a bond-servant of Christ.

Philippians 1:15-18 15 Some, to be sure, are preaching Christ even from envy and strife, but some also from good will; 16 the latter do it out of love, knowing that I am appointed for the defense of the gospel; 17 the former proclaim Christ out of selfish ambition rather than from pure motives, thinking to cause me distress in my imprisonment. 18 What then? Only that in every way, whether in pretense or in truth, Christ is proclaimed; and in this I rejoice.

✓ Notice the pressure you feel in a disagreement to be _____ or to win at all _____.

Remember this - The temptation of the flesh in the area of disagreeing is to make _____ (rather than shining for Jesus) the point.

Our challenge: Fight the tendencies of the flesh to sacrifice _____ on the altar of _____.

September 27, 2020

"Heaven Came Down" 438

"Wonderful, Wonderful Jesus" 434

"When I Look into Your Holiness"

* Pastoral Prayer & Children's Sermon *

"Lord I Need You"