



Love & WAR

Conflict in Marriage:

1. Conflict is part of every marriage.



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Conflict in Marriage:

2. Conflict is not an excuse to quit or sin.



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- **Born into conflict**

- **At temple at the age of 12**

- **Woman at the Well**

- **Money Changers at the temple**

- **Interaction with Peter**

- **Religious Leaders**



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Conflict in Marriage:

3. Conflict can be an opportunity to strengthen your relationship.



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Causes of Conflict:



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1. Negative Communication Patterns.



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James 1:19 (ESV)

**let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak,
slow to anger;**



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- **W- Withdraw**



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- **E- Escalation**



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- **N- Negative Interpretation**



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- **I- Invalidation**



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Causes of Conflict:

2. Simple differences of opinion.



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Proverbs 19:11 (ESV)

**Good sense makes one slow to anger, and it is his glory
to overlook an offense.**



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- **Is the offense dishonoring God?**
- **Has it permanently damaged the relationship?**
 - **Is it hurting anyone?**



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Causes of Conflict:

3. YOU are sinful.



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- Selfishness.



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James 4:1-4 (ESV)

What causes quarrels and what causes fights among you? Is it not this, that your passions are at war within you? You desire and do not have, so you murder. You covet and cannot obtain, so you fight and quarrel. You do not have, because you do not ask. You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, to spend it on your passions. You adulterous people! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God.

James 3:16 (ESV)

For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there will be disorder and every vile practice.



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The antidote for selfishness is sacrificial love.



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- Pride.



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Proverbs 13:10

Pride only breeds quarrels, but wisdom is found in those who take advice.



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The antidote for pride is humility.



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- Anger.



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Proverbs 29:22

**An angry man stirs up dissension, and a hot-tempered
one commmits many sins.**

Proverbs 10:12

Hatred stirs up dissension, but love covers all wrongs



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The antidote for anger is forgiveness.



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- Quarrelsome Attitude.



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Proverbs 21:19

**Better to live in a desert than with a quarrelsome
and ill-tempered wife.**

Proverbs 26:21

As charcoal to embers and as wood to fire, so is a quarrelsome man for kindling strife.



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**The antidote for a quarrelsome attitude is the
fear of the Lord (Jesus).**



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Proverbs 1:7 (ESV)

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge; fools despise wisdom and instruction.



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Resolving Conflict:

1. Find common ground in Christ and remember that you are on the same team.

Ephesians 2:14

“For he himself (Jesus Christ) is our peace, who has made the two one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility.



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**“Surviving a Spiritual Mismatch”
by Lee Strobel**



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Resolving Conflict:

2. Humble yourself and accept responsibility.

Philippians 2:1-4

If you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any fellowship with the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and purpose. Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves. Each one of you should look not only to your own interests, but to the interests of others.



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Philippians 2:5-8

Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus: Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to death—even death on a cross!



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Resolving Conflict:

3. Confront gently and forgive graciously.

Galatians 6:1

Brothers, if someone is caught in a sin, you who are spiritual should restore him gently.



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Luke 17:3-4

If your brother sins, rebuke him, and if he repents, forgive him. If he sins against you seven times in a day, and seven times comes back to you and says, “I repent” forgive him.



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Resolving Conflict:

**4. Men, she wants your love;
Ladies, he wants your respect.**

Ephesians 5:33 (ESV)

**However, let each one of you love his wife as himself,
and let the wife see that she respects her husband.**



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Colossians 3:13

Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you.

Ephesians 4:3

Make every effort to keep the unity of the spirit through the bond of peace.



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