

Conflict Resolution

Scripture Praise Focus: *“A gentle answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger.” (Proverbs 15:1)*

Dear Heavenly Father,

Your word teaches us everything we need to know for godliness. We praise You, that you prepare us and show us how to resolve conflict, how to confront one another and spur each other on toward righteousness. You are faithful God, and you equip us to obey and honor You.

Lord there can be many conflicts on a college campus as young adults are experiencing freedoms and responsibilities as never before. The need to confront and resolve conflict in a biblical way that preserves relationships and is a beneficial witness as your followers is so important at this crucial time in their lives.

Father give wisdom to your Church on this campus. Through your Holy Spirit help them to understand your biblical answers for when to confront: when someone is in danger (Proverbs 24:11-12), when a relationship is threatened (Philippians 4:2-3), when division exists within a group (Romans 14:19), when someone sins against you (Matthew 18:15), when you are offended (Ephesians 4:2-3), when someone is caught in sin (Ezekiel 3:18), when others are offended (Galatians 2:11-13).

Give them confidence to confront to honor You, not out of their own justice, but out of obedience to You. Give them wisdom to know the difference. Help these students be peacemakers, while they stand firmly on your precepts without wavering.

Father, let mercy, forgiveness and restoration stem from resolving conflict in ways that honor you. Let this campus be known for devotion to Christ that leads to brotherly love and accountability. Father through your Holy Spirit, bring unity to campus organizations, faculty, students and employees that there may not be discord even when there is disagreement. "Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruit." (Proverbs 18:21) Keep the enemy from bringing confusion that separates and suspicion that destroys relationships. Let there be peace, Lord, as your people humble themselves, pray and seek your counsel to confront conflicts in their classes, homes, dorms and this campus.

Thank you that Your plans for us include encouraging one another to build fellowship. "Brothers, If someone is caught in a sin, you who are spiritual should restore him gently. But, watch yourself, or you also may be tempted." (Galatians 6:1)

Thank you for your great love and your kindness to us. Thank you for the clear direction we find in Your word that shows us the way we should go, confront, resolve, forgive and love.

Lord, let us, this campus, and these students, spread the truth of Your Gospel through our words and actions throughout this campus. Let us be quick to listen and slow to speak. Let us not fail to speak Father, when You prompt us. Thank you for allowing us to be in a country where we may still speak and confront. Thank you for your Son, who came to set us free from sin and death, and for Your Holy Spirit that reminds us what Jesus taught us, and show us the way we should go. Let these students heed His prompting.

We pray this prayer in Jesus' name. Amen!

Song for meditation: More Love More Power by Michael W. Smith