

# Overcoming Conflict

43 "You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' 44 But I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you, 45 that you may be sons of your Father in heaven; for He makes His sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust. 46 For if you love those who love you, what reward have you? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? 47 And if you greet your brethren only, what do you do more than others? Do not even the tax collectors do so? 48 Therefore you shall be perfect, just as your Father in heaven is perfect.  
(Matthew 5:43 – 48)

## Disagreements Happen, even with Christians

- Division over John Mark
  - Acts 12:25
  - Acts 15:36 – 41
  - II Timothy 4:11
- Matthew 5:43 – 48



# Reasons we have difficulty getting along:

- Doctrinal Issues
  - Galatians 2:11
  - I Corinthians 2:2
- Matters of opinion
- History of conflict with the person
  - Matthew 5:23 – 26
  - Matthew 18:15 – 20
- Personality differences



# 6 Keys to overcoming Disagreement with a Brother or Sister:

1. **Keep Christ at the center of the discussion/relationship**
  - ▶ I Corinthians 2:2





# 6 Keys to overcoming Disagreement with a Brother or Sister:

1. Keep Christ at the center of the discussion/relationship
2. Define the problem and stick to the issue.
  - ▶ John 8:32



# 6 Keys to overcoming Disagreement with a Brother or Sister:

1. Keep Christ at the center of the discussion/relationship
2. Define the problem and stick to the issue.
3. Pursue purity of heart.
  - ▶ Matthew 7:1 – 5



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2. Define the problem and stick to the issue.
3. Pursue purity of heart.
4. Listen carefully.
  - James 1:19





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4. Listen carefully.
5. Forgive.

► Matthew 18:21 – 35





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2. Define the problem and stick to the issue.
3. Pursue purity of heart.
4. Listen carefully.
5. Forgive.
6. Agree on the Biblical Solution.
  - ▶ Philippians 2:4-5





Do you have conflict (sin) inhibiting  
your relationship with Christ?