

Living Insight

How well do we deal with and overcome conflict in our lives? One of the main causes for the high rate of divorce is a failure to resolve conflicts. The reason one country goes to war against another is because they have failed at conflict resolution. We must learn to overcome conflict, and we must do it God's way. The Lord's way involves gentle teaching, continued prayer and Christ-centered correction. We can rise above the strife, and we are commanded to overcome evil with good. The greatest gift is the gift of love!

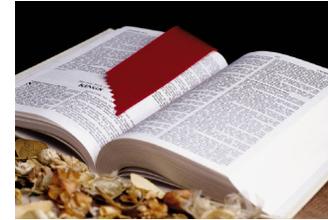
~ Through His Grace, Mercy & Power,

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Prayer Requests



Let Us Rise Above the Strife



CHURCH OF CHRIST Sixteenth & Decatur

Sermon Outline

2 Timothy 2:22-26

Date: Sunday, January 19, 2014

Time: 11:00 A.M.

Let Us Rise Above the Strife



I. Introduction: Sound Advice for Right Living

- A. Young people can have some impure passions.
 - 1. Some older people may have the same problem.
 - 2. God's advice is to flee those passions. **(2:22)**
 - 3. We are instructed to pursue righteousness.
- B. We should expect strife & conflict in our lives.
 - 1. Jesus told us to expect persecution.
~ **Matthew 10:16-25**
 - 2. The first church was severely attacked. **(Acts 4)**
 - 3. We will also face conflict in our lives.
- C. How do we handle conflict in our lives?
 - 1. Some people believe in fighting fire with fire.
 - 2. The Lord gives us a much better way to go.
 - 3. We must use kindness, patience & correction.

II. Body: What is Christ-like Conflict Resolution?

- A. We rise above strife with kind teaching. **(2:23-24)**
 - 1. Do not argue and quarrel! ~ **Luke 22:24-27**
 - 2. Spiritual leaders must be able to teach.
 - 3. **Christ-like leaders teach with kindness.**
- B. We rise above strife through patient prayer.
 - 1. How does a person patiently endure evil?
 - 2. We patiently endure evil through prayer.
 - 3. When the church is attacked, we pray.
~ **Acts 4:23-31**
- C. We rise above the strife with gentle correction.
 - 1. Nathan gently corrected David. ~ **2 Samuel 12**
 - 2. Paul was not as gentle with Peter. ~ **Gal. 2:11**
 - 3. Christian correction is part of our maturity.

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III. Conclusion: We Do Not Wrestle Against Flesh & Blood.

- A. We are engaged in spiritual warfare. **(Ephesians 6)**
 - 1. Our enemy is spiritual, clever and powerful.
 - 2. Those who are not in Christ have one hope.
 - 3. There must be a willingness to obey Jesus.
- B. Those who are in Christ must gird up for battle.
 - 1. Put on the full armor of Christ and march.
 - 2. Continue to pray in the Spirit at all times.
 - 3. Keep sharing the good news of Christ.

Sermon Notes
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