

CONFLICT MANAGEMENT #3

November 1, 2020 Matthew 7:1-6,12

Do you know how to win friends and influence people? Love your neighbor. “So **in everything, do to others what you would have them to you, for this sums up the Law and the Prophets (7:12).**” It’s easy to fall into the trap of **us vs them.**

1. How to avoid hypocritical criticizing judgment

- Look at your sins and ask God for forgiveness. I John 1:9
- Look at your failures. Do I keep my promises? Am I reacting in anger?
- Look at your blind spots (the 2x4 in your eye). Ask others to help you.
- Avoid name calling: dogs & pigs 7:6
- Remember that God is the Judge. James 4:11-12
- How do you want God to judge you? 7:2 With mercy or justice?

2. Treat others like you would like to be treated – Matthew 7:12

- **God has called us to be peacemakers and reconcilers.**
- Listen – James 1:19 Do you know their story?
- Pray for understanding and wisdom and pray for that person. In some way every person is broken.
- Don’t discriminate. James 2:1-4
- Ask God to fill you with His unconditional love. That doesn’t mean we accept as good everything someone is doing.
- Ask: Is there anything I can do to help?
- Be ready to show compassion and put your love in action (7:9-11)