

# Conflict

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## HOW DOES CONFLICT START?

### 2 SAMUEL 15:1-12

Conflict begins when we don't get what we want, and the only way to get it is to take it from someone else. This leads to disagreement and can lead to open warfare.

### ACTS 15:36-41

Conflict begins when two opposing viewpoints are not willing to find common ground.

### ESTHER 3:1-9

Conflict begins when we seek revenge.

### ROMANS 7:14-25

Conflict begins when good confronts evil. The two cannot peacefully coexist. One must triumph.

## WHAT ARE SOME WAYS TO RESOLVE CONFLICT?

### GENESIS 13:7-9

Solving conflict takes initiative; someone must make the first move. Abram gave Lot first choice, putting family peace above personal desires.

### GENESIS 26:17-22

Solving conflict takes humility, a desire to see peace more than personal victory.

### 2 SAMUEL 3:1

Solving conflict involves compromise, finding common ground that is bigger than your differences. If neither side is willing to take the initiative or show the necessary humility to seek common ground, conflict will result in a broken friendship, divorce, or even war.

## HOW DO I KEEP A CONFLICT FROM GETTING OUT OF CONTROL?

### PROVERBS 17:27

Words can be used as tools or weapons and therefore must be used carefully.

### MATTHEW 5:23-26

We are not to "bury" or deny conflicts, but rather to take immediate steps to resolve them.

### MATTHEW 18:15-17

Jesus outlines a three-step process for confronting major conflicts among believers.

### ROMANS 16:17

Sometimes the best way to deal with conflict is to avoid it.

*Promise from God: Matthew 5:43-45*