



CLIMATE CHANGE, Part 3: Stormy Weather

INTRODUCTION

Conflict gets a bad rap. The goal of any relationship isn't to have *no* conflict; it's to be able to resolve conflict in healthy ways. When there's unresolved conflict, the relationship flatlines, emotions get frozen, and the relationship gets stuck. The climate of your relationships will improve when you resolve conflict instead of ignoring it.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What's your favorite movie or novel? What role does conflict play in its story?
2. Talk about a time when you had to interact with someone who didn't listen to you. What was it like to be on the other side of that person?
3. Has someone you know ever avoided telling you a hard truth? If so, how did that person's silence affect you?
4. Are you a conflict avoider or enjoyer? How does that play out in your relationships?
5. Talk about a time when you've committed the *fundamental attribution error*—when you've wrongly made assumptions about someone else's motives. What happened as a result?
6. Read Proverbs 3:3-4. What are some ways you can “write” loyalty and kindness deep within your heart?

MOVING FORWARD

Think of one relationship in your life that needs some conflict resolution. Pray about it. Ask God how to approach that person with loyalty and kindness. Then do it.

CHANGING YOUR MIND

Never let loyalty and kindness leave you!

Tie them around your neck as a reminder.

Write them deep within your heart.

*Then you will find favor with both God and people,
and you will earn a good reputation.*

Proverbs 3:3-4 (NLT)