

# When We Disagree



# Colossians 3:12-14

- 12 Therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering; 13 bearing with one another, and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so you also must do.

# We Will



- We are individuals – own thoughts and ideas
- Work, church, home, marriage – everywhere
- We must learn how to disagree - - -
- Without being disagreeable

# Welcome It

- Disagreement is an opportunity to grow
- You might learn something
- It might prevent you from making a BIG mistake

# Distrust 1<sup>st</sup> Instinct

- First instinct = Defensive
- Cat in a corner – the claws come out, hiss, show teeth
- **James 1:19** So then, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath

# Control your Temper

- You can measure a man by what makes him angry.
- **Proverbs 14:17** A quick-tempered man acts foolishly, And a man of wicked intentions is hated.
- **Proverbs 14:29** He who is slow to wrath has great understanding, But he who is impulsive exalts folly.

# Listen First

- Proverbs 15:1 A soft answer turns away wrath, But a harsh word stirs up anger.
- Build bridges, not barriers
- Let him finish - “Give him enough rope to hang himself.”

# Look for Agreement

- Jesus did
  - In letters to 7 churches (Revelation 2 & 3)
  - Each letter starts with what is good with that church
- Find something good to say
- Tell them what is right



# Be Honest

- Apologize for your mistake, misunderstanding, wrong information
- Colossians 3:12-14
  - BEAR = Endure, Let Go
  - FOREBEAR = Ignore
- REMEMBER – You are no bargain to live with either!!

# Promise to Consider

- Promise to think carefully and consider his ideas, thoughts, viewpoint
- There might be some merit
- If you still disagree – you will have clear reasons to discuss (not just emotion)

# Promise to Consider

- **Genesis 21:9-11** 9 And Sarah saw the son of Hagar the Egyptian, which she had born unto Abraham, mocking. 10 Wherefore she said unto Abraham, Cast out this bondwoman and her son: for the son of this bondwoman shall not be heir with my son, even with Isaac. 11 And the thing was very grievous in Abraham's sight because of his son.

# Promise to Consider

- **Genesis 21:12** And God said unto Abraham, Let it not be grievous in thy sight because of the lad, and because of thy bondwoman; in all that Sarah hath said unto thee, hearken unto her voice; for in Isaac shall thy seed be called.
- God said – Listen to Sarah, Consider her feelings, think about her point of view

# Thanks for Interest

- It takes courage to disagree
- Thank him for standing for his viewpoint
- This shows he really cares about the matter

# PRAY

- Postpone any action
- Pray for wisdom, knowledge, understanding
- Be open to consider the other view

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