

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE LIFE LESSONS FROM NEHEMIAH

LIFE LESSONS FROM NEHEMIAH Part 7 – How to Resolve A Conflict Nehemiah 5:1-13

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I. SATAN USES CONFLICT TO **STOP US**.

Mark 3:25 “If a house is divided against itself, that house cannot stand.” (Jesus)

II. THE ROOT CAUSE OF CONFLICT IS USUALLY **SELFISHNESS**. (Nehemiah 5:1- 5)

*James 4:1 “Do you know where your fights and arguments come from? They come from the **selfish** desires that war within you.” (NCV)*

There are some rules of leadership we have mentioned in this series:

1. **Nothing happens** until someone provides leadership for it.
2. The foundation of leadership is **character** not charisma.
3. Leadership can be **learned**.

III. HOW TO RESOLVE CONFLICT AMONG THOSE YOU LOVE.

A. First, **care** about those who are being abused. (Nehemiah 5: 6)

1. When someone is being abused by others, there is an appropriate anger called **righteous indignation**.

*1 Peter 3:8 “Finally, all of you, live in harmony with one another; be **sympathetic**, love as brothers, be compassionate and humble.”*

Proverbs 18:13 “He who answers a matter **before** he hears it, It is **folly** and **shame** to him.” (NKJV)

2. When you are a leader you can't be part of the **problem**. When you are a leader, you have to be part of the **solution**.

Ephesians 4:26 "Be angry and **sin not**."

- B. **Think** before you **speak**. (Nehemiah 5:7a)

James 1:19-20 "Be quick to **listen**, slow to **speak** and slow to become **angry**. For man's anger does not bring about the righteous life God desires."

- C. Privately **confront** the offenders in the group. (Nehemiah 5:7)

1. Go directly to the or to someone who can get you to the source.

Matthew 18:15-17 "If your brother sins against you, go and show him his fault just between the two of you. If he listens to you, you've won your brother over. But if he will not listen, take one or two others along so that every matter may be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses."

2. First, go see the person who has offended. If that doesn't work, only involve another (others) who can **positively impact** the outcome.

- D. Publicly deal with **public** issues. (Nehemiah 5:7-9)

1. We should deal with issues at the **level** that they are known.
2. Nehemiah **publicly** repeats what he told the offenders in private.

- E. Present a positive **solution** that justly corrects the issue in question. (Nehemiah 5:10-13)

Nehemiah 5:13 "I also shook out the folds of my robe and said, "In this way may God shake out of his house and possessions every man who does not keep this promise. So may such a man be shaken out and emptied!" At this the whole assembly said, "Amen," and praised the Lord. And the people did as they had promised."

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Notes:
