

Beltway Park

That's What She Said Where Has Your Lover Gone? Beltway Park October 25, 2009

Text: Song of Songs 5-6 (p.671)

The question is not if conflict will happen in a marriage (or really in any relationship). The question is in the area of resolution. Conflict will occur; resolution is _____!

Be _____ by making sure you are making regular deposits!

An _____ account is a symbol of the amount of trust that's been built up in a relationship. It's the feeling of safeness and confidence a person has in a relationship.

A higher balance in the emotional bank account leads to greater trust. Greater trust makes communication easier, and it makes the resolution of conflict _____ when withdrawals are made.

What happens when you don't have a healthy balance – you're operating close to zero or maybe in the red? Then little things become big things, and conflict is much more difficult to resolve because the trust is so _____.

- Seek to really _____ the other person and love them in the way they would feel loved. (*Mt. 7:12*)
- Take care of the _____.
- Keep your _____!
- Sincerely _____ when you sin.

With an apology comes an expectation, and that expectation is that I'm going to seek to _____. (*2 Cor. 7:10*)

We must seek to _____ !

The goal in relational conflict is not to _____. The goal is to resolve the issue while at the same time still caring for the other person.

- Don't avoid issues with the _____.
- Attack the _____, not the person.
- No _____. No bringing your spouse's family into the issue.
- Avoid _____. Words like "always" and "never" are sweeping statements that just add to the difficulty of the moment.
- If there are accusations, make sure you have facts and not just feelings to support your accusations (and nothing more than six months old). Then, offer _____ along with statements of criticism.
- Above all, be _____. You could be wrong. When you're wrong, admit it. Apologize. Repent. And if you're right, keep your mouth shut. No gloating.

We must _____ deeply.

Some people say communication is the most important thing in marriage. I'm not sure I buy that. It is important, but I think the most important thing in marriage is genuine _____.

Unforgiveness allows the enemy, Satan, access into our lives to wreak havoc. It leads to _____ lives and marriages.

Forgiveness is hard work. Rarely do we feel like it. It is a _____ that is made by faith, and it is a process that takes time. (*1 Cor. 13:5*)
