

SHOES - Part 2
"Shoe Shine"
Pastor Bill Bush
June 14, 2009

1 Corinthians 10:31-11:1 (NLT)

THE BIG IDEA:
The FIRST Step to conflict resolution is to

Conflict shows what you really think of God. By your actions you will either show that you have a big God, or that you have a big self and big problems.

Key Questions: How can I please and honor God in this situation?

How can I bring praise to Jesus by showing that He has saved me and is changing me?

Conflict provides two God-Glorifying opportunities.

1st Opportunity: Serve other people.

- Help carry their burdens. **Galatians 6:2, 10**
- Help them change through constructive confrontation. **Galatians 6:1**
- Encourage others to trust in Jesus Christ. **1 Peter 3:15-16**
- Teach and encourage others by example. **1 Timothy 4:12**

2nd Opportunity: Grow to imitate Christ.

Romans 8:28-29 (NLT) And we know that God causes every thing to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to His purpose for them. For God knew His people in advance, and He chose them to become like His Son, so that His Son would be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters.

The ABC's of spiritual growth: Adversity Builds Character!

"Watch the kind of people God brings around you, and you will be humiliated to find that this is His way of revealing to you the kind of person you have been to Him." Oswald Chambers

Glorify God and focus on the perspective of obedience not results.

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SHARPEN THE POINT
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For further study of today's message

ENTRY POINT: Many situations, including conflict, give us the opportunity to demonstrate our love which comes from God. The proof of our love is in how we treat others.

Read **I John 3:16-18** and **I John 4:7-21**.

Do you, honestly, see conflict as an obstacle or an opportunity? When and how has conflict presented an opportunity to serve someone else? When has it revealed the love and power of God in your life?

How have you used confrontation in an attempt to bring about change in someone else? Have you been on the receiving end of such confrontation, and what was your reaction? The result?

Think of a time when you can see how God used conflict to "grow you," and teach you. What did you learn?

When have you, in obedience, had to give up (lose) something in order to gain (win) even though it was not what you had in mind?

What are you willing to sacrifice in order to glorify God?

"And God himself has commanded that we must love not only Him, but our Christian brothers and sisters, too."
I John 4:21