

Dealing with our country's current chaos

James 1:19 My dear brothers, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry, ²⁰ for man's anger does not bring about the righteous life that God desires. ²¹ Therefore, get rid of all moral filth and the evil that is so prevalent and humbly accept the word planted in you, which can save you.

How can I approach conflict with others in a godly way?

1. I approach conflict in a godly way by listening well to the other person

- It's crucial for me to listen first because it allows me to gain a proper understanding of where the other person or group is coming from.
- It's crucial for me to listen first because it shows humility
- It's crucial for me to listen first because it offers respect and honor to the other person or group
- It's crucial for me to listen first because this often helps disarm the tension
- It's crucial for me to listen first because it gives the Holy Spirit room to guide my perceptions

2. I approach conflict in a godly way by delaying my reply

- When I delay my answer, I give my emotions a chance to settle down
- When I delay my answer, I give myself time to more carefully weigh the situation
- When I delay my answer it gives me a chance to consider timing
- When I delay my answer, it gives me a chance to listen to the Holy Spirit

3. I approach conflict in a godly way by limiting my anger

Our "right now" strategy for anger management is self-control

-zip the lip and stand down

Our long-range strategy for anger is to let God change our perspective

- Growing in humility makes me slower to anger
- Healing up over past offenses makes me slower to anger
- Choosing wise people as influencers will make me slower to anger
- Finding my security in God will make me slower to anger