

How A Leader Resolves Conflict

Building The Leader Within You

October 3, 2012

Jesus knew their thoughts and said to them: “Any kingdom divided against itself will be ruined, and a house divided against itself will fall.

Luke 11:17 (NIV)

Causes of the conflict:

1. _____ Shortages

Some were saying, “We and our sons and daughters are numerous; in order for us to eat and stay alive, we must get grain.”

Nehemiah 5:2 (NIV)

2. _____ Bondage

Others were saying, “We are mortgaging our fields, our vineyards and our homes to get grain during the famine.”

Nehemiah 5:3 (NIV)

3. High _____

Still others were saying, “We have had to borrow money to pay the king’s tax on our fields and vineyards.”

Nehemiah 5:4 (NIV)

4. Family _____

“Although we are of the same flesh and blood as our countrymen and though our sons are as good as theirs, yet we have to subject our sons and daughters to slavery. Some of our daughters have already been enslaved, but we are powerless, because our fields and our vineyards belong to others.”

Nehemiah 5:5 (NIV)

Real Cause?

Now the men and their wives raised a great outcry against their Jewish brothers.

Nehemiah 5:1 (NIV)

“If you lend money to one of my people among you who is needy, do not be like a moneylender; charge him no interest.”

Exodus 22:25 (NIV)

What causes fights and quarrels among you? Don’t they come from your desires that battle within you? You want something but don’t get it.

James 4:1-2 (NIV)

What is the Cure for conflict?

1. Recognize My Need for _____

When I heard their outcry and these charges, I was very angry.

Nehemiah 5:6 (NIV)

In your anger do not sin. Ephesians 4:26 (NIV)

2. Spend time _____ on my _____

I pondered them in my mind and then accused the nobles and officials.

Nehemiah 5:7a (NIV)

My dear brothers, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry, for man’s anger does not bring about the righteous life that God desires.

James 1:19-20 (NIV)

3. Speak _____ to the source

I told them, “You are exacting usury from your own countrymen!”

Nehemiah 5:7b (NIV)

“If your brother sins against you, go and show him his fault, just between the two of you. If he listens to you, you have won your brother over.”

Matthew 18:15 (NIV)

Warn a divisive person once, and then warn him a second time. After that, have nothing to do with him. You may be sure that such a man is warped and sinful; he is self-condemned.

Titus 3:10-11 (NIV)

4. _____ Deal With the situation

So I called together a large meeting to deal with them and said: “As far as possible, we have bought back our Jewish brothers who were sold to the Gentiles. Now you are selling your brothers, only for them to be sold back to us!” They kept quiet, because they could find nothing to say. So I continued, “What you are doing is not right. Shouldn’t you walk in the fear of our God to avoid the reproach of our Gentile enemies? I and my brothers and my men are also lending the people money and grain. But let the exacting of usury stop! Give back to them immediately their fields, vineyards, olive groves and houses, and also the usury you are charging them—the hundredth part of the money, grain, new wine and oil.” “We will give it back,” they said. “And we will not demand anything more from them. We will do as you say.” Then I summoned the priests and made the nobles and officials take an oath to do what they had promised. 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.

Nehemiah 5:7c-13 (NIV)

5. Set an example of the _____

Moreover, from the twentieth year of King Artaxerxes, when I was appointed to be their governor in the land of Judah, until his thirty-second year—twelve years—neither I nor my brothers ate the food allotted to the governor. But the earlier governors—those preceding me—placed a heavy burden on the people and took forty shekels of silver from them in addition to food and wine. Their assistants also lorded it over the people. But out of reverence for God I did not act like that. Instead, I devoted myself to the work on this wall. All my men were assembled there for the work; we did not acquire any land. Furthermore, a hundred and fifty Jews and officials ate at my table, as well as those who came to us from the surrounding nations. Each day one ox, six choice sheep and some poultry were prepared for me, and every ten days an abundant supply of wine of all kinds. In spite of all this, I never demanded the food allotted to the governor, because the demands were heavy on these people. Remember me with favor, O my God, for all I have done for these people.

Nehemiah 5:14-19 (NIV)

The _____ For FBCT?

Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.

Ephesians 4:3 (NIV)

*Next Week:
How A Leader Handles Temptation*