

The welcome verse for this week is Jude 1:2, “May mercy, peace, and love be multiplied to you.”



**When the Game Takes a Bad Turn**  
Proverbs 10:12; Romans 12:14-21  
James 1:19-20

**The Bottom Line:** Your greatest witness *to* and *for* Christ is your response to conflict.

**Introduction:**

There are times when Christians want to learn what God says about a certain subject, but they do not want to live out what God says concerning it. One of those topics is conflict.

Sometimes our “unique” perspective of our conflict conflicts with God’s understanding of our conflict.

We do not typically deal with conflict in a healthy or holy way. Often, this part of our lives is where we are most similar to unbelievers.

**Tension:**

Conflict is an easy platform where the Enemy grabs the microphone and shows off his excellent ability to speak lies. In that moment, we are tempted to believe lies about ourselves, our opposer, and even God Himself.

Our usual reaction is either to fake peace or break peace, and rarely is it to make peace. We can avoid, attack, or act humbly before God and our neighbor.

**Truth:**

In every conflict, we have an opportunity to react in the flesh or respond by the Spirit. The Apostle Paul teaches us that the latter will cause everyone to win.

**Read Romans 12:14-21.**

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**Application & Conclusion:**

Your greatest witness *to* and *for* Christ is your response to conflict. Refuse to react in the flesh and choose to respond according to the Spirit's leading, so that you might "do what is honorable in the sight of all."

God tends to use conflict to sanctify us, ultimately making us more like Christ. As we increasingly look more like Jesus, those around us see more of Jesus on display. So then, choose to submit to God in your conflict and watch how God uses you to change the world He so loves.

**"Reflection Questions:"**

1. **What does this teach me about God?**

2. **What does this teach me about me?**

3. **How do I apply this to my life?**