

Confronting Friends and Family

It's a Mad, Mad World, part 4

Pastor Craig Ferguson

Three factors in confronting people

1. Importance ~ Does it really matter?

Make it your ambition to lead a quiet life, to mind your own business...

1 Thesalonians 4:11 (NIV)

Brothers, if someone is caught in a sin, you who are spiritual should restore him gently. But watch yourself, or you also may be tempted. Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.

Galatians 6:1-2 (NIV)

Rescue those who are unjustly sentenced to death; don't stand back and let them die. Don't try to avoid responsibility by saying you didn't know about it...

Proverbs 24:11-12 (NLT)

You must make allowance for each other's faults and forgive the person who offends you. Remember, the Lord forgave you, so you must forgive others.

Colossians 3:13 (NLT)

So whatever you believe about these things keep between yourself and God. Blessed is the man who does not condemn himself by what he approves.

Romans 14:22 (NIV)

2. Relationship ~ What is my connection?

An open rebuke is better than hidden love! Wounds from a friend are better than many kisses from an enemy.

Proverbs 27:5-6 (NLT)

3. Openness ~ Will they listen?

Valid criticism is as treasured by the one who heeds it as jewelry made from finest gold.

Proverbs 25:12 (NLT)

Don't give what is holy to unholy people. Don't give pearls to swine! They will trample the pearls, then turn and attack you.

Matthew 7:6 (NLT)

Three guidelines for confronting people

1. Stick to the facts

Zeal without knowledge is not good; a person who moves too quickly may go the wrong way.

Proverbs 19:2 (NLT)

Do not listen to complaints against an elder unless there are two or three witnesses to accuse him.

1 Timothy 5:19 (NLT)

2. Maintain credibility

How can you think of saying, 'Let me help you get rid of that speck in your eye,' when you can't see past the log in your own eye? Hypocrite! First get rid of the log from your own eye; then perhaps you will see well enough to deal with the speck in your friend's eye.

(NLT)

Matthew 7:4-5

3. Balance truth and love

Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will in all things grow up into him who is the Head, that is, Christ. *Ephesians 4:15 (NIV)*