



## Keeping a Cool Head in a Heated Conversation June 4, 2023

Have you ever heard anyone say, “Don’t take this the wrong way?” What was your reaction? Why is this a terrible way to start a conversation?

### **Read Romans 12:18 and Matthew 5:9**

What is the difference between being a peacekeeper and a peacemaker? What are some practical ways you can keep a conversation productive when things begins to get heated?

### **Proverbs 14:29 and 18:23**

What are some of the things that keep you from being a good listener? Why is listening so important, even if (or especially if) you do not agree?

### **Read Romans 14:19**

Why is it so much easier to find the difference in our views instead of the common ground? How have you personally averted anger and hostility with someone by focusing on what you have in common?

### **Read Proverbs 12:25, 12:18, 15:1 and 15:23**

The Bible has a lot to say about the impact of our words. How have you seen timing or tone dramatically impact a conversation? What are some ways we can use timing or tone to soften the negative impact of a difficult conversation?

### **Read Proverbs 17:27 and 20:23**

Ted made the point that “sometimes we say it best when we say nothing at all.” Can you give an example of when staying quiet really was the best thing? How do you “pick you battles” when it comes to controversial conversations?

### **1 Corinthians 6:7**

Are you easily offended? Does that affect your ability to minister to certain people or groups of people? How do you balance compassion and conviction in a way that brings others to a better understanding of Christ?

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

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