

(2 Timothy 2:23-26 NLT) Again I say, don't get involved in foolish, ignorant arguments that only start fights. A servant of the Lord must not quarrel but must be kind to everyone, be able to teach, and be patient with difficult people. Gently instruct those who oppose the truth. Perhaps God will change those people's hearts, and they will learn the truth. Then they will come to their senses and escape from the devil's trap. For they have been held captive by him to do whatever he wants.

Dealing with Difficult People

(Romans 3:23) ...for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God...

✓ Be _____.

(Matthew 5:46, 47 NLT) If you love only those who love you, what reward is there for that? Even corrupt tax collectors do that much. If you are kind only to your friends, how are you different from anyone else? Even pagans do that.

✓ Be _____.

(Proverbs 15:1 NLT) A gentle answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger.

(Matthew 11:29 NLT) Take my yoke upon you. Let me teach you, because I am humble and gentle at heart, and you will find rest for your souls.

✓ Be _____.

(Ephesians 4:2) Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love.

Confront with a desire to _____, not a desire to _____.

What if nothing changes?

(2 Timothy 2:23 NLT) Again I say, don't get involved in foolish, ignorant arguments that only start fights.

1. _____ you cannot please everyone.

(John 5:30) By myself I can do nothing; I judge only as I hear, and my judgement is just, for I seek not to please myself but him who sent me.

2. _____ to do good.

(1 Peter 2:15) For it is God's will that by doing good you should silence the ignorant talk of foolish people.

3. _____ above it.

(Isaiah 40:31 NKJV) But those who wait on the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles. They shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

4. Never _____.

(1 Peter 3:9 NLT) Don't repay evil for evil. Don't retaliate with insults when people insult you. Instead, pay them back with a blessing. That is what God has called you to do, and he will grant you his blessing.

5. _____ them.

(Matthew 5:44 NLT) But I say, love your enemies! Pray for those who persecute you!

6. Live _____.

(Ephesians 4:32 NLT) Instead, be kind to each other, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, just as God through Christ has forgiven you.

(2 Timothy 2:23-26 NLT) Again I say, don't get involved in foolish, ignorant arguments that only start fights. A servant of the Lord must not quarrel but must be kind to everyone, be able to teach, and be patient with difficult people. Gently instruct those who oppose the truth. Perhaps God will change those people's hearts, and they will learn the truth. Then they will come to their senses and escape from the devil's trap. For they have been held captive by him to do whatever he wants.

Dealing with Difficult People

(Romans 3:23) ...for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God...

✓ Be kind.

(Matthew 5:46, 47 NLT) If you love only those who love you, what reward is there for that? Even corrupt tax collectors do that much. If you are kind only to your friends, how are you different from anyone else? Even pagans do that.

✓ Be gentle.

(Proverbs 15:1 NLT) A gentle answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger.

(Matthew 11:29 NLT) Take my yoke upon you. Let me teach you, because I am humble and gentle at heart, and you will find rest for your souls.

✓ Be patient.

(Ephesians 4:2) Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love.

Confront with a desire to reconcile, not a desire to be right.

What if nothing changes?

(2 Timothy 2:23 NLT) Again I say, don't get involved in foolish, ignorant arguments that only start fights.

1. Realize you cannot please everyone.

(John 5:30) By myself I can do nothing; I judge only as I hear, and my judgement is just, for I seek not to please myself but him who sent me.

2. Resolve to do good.

(1 Peter 2:15) For it is God's will that by doing good you should silence the ignorant talk of foolish people.

3. Rise above it.

(Isaiah 40:31 NKJV) But those who wait on the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles. They shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

4. Never retaliate.

(1 Peter 3:9 NLT) Don't repay evil for evil. Don't retaliate with insults when people insult you. Instead, pay them back with a blessing. That is what God has called you to do, and he will grant you his blessing.

5. Release them.

(Matthew 5:44 NLT) But I say, love your enemies! Pray for those who persecute you!

6. Live redemptively.

(Ephesians 4:32 NLT) Instead, be kind to each other, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, just as God through Christ has forgiven you.