

Text: 2 Samuel 19:40b – 20:26
Topic: Conflict
Series: Book of 2 Samuel

Focal Point Radio Ministries

May 6 & 7, 2000

Pastor Mike

How to Argue

Rules of Engagement for Your Next Disagreement



1. Be _____ (19:40b – 20:3)

2. Aim _____ (20:4-13)

3. Work _____ (20:14-26)

Application Questions

These questions are provided for your further study and application of today's message. Thoughtfully writing out the answers to these questions will help to drive home the point of today's message. It is also helpful to discuss your answers with others. This can take place with friends, your family, accountability partners, or ministry groups within the church.

1. Describe a situation in which you escalated a minor disagreement because of your unguarded or exaggerated attitude.

What practical steps can you take to gain perspective and calm down the next time your emotions try to take the lead in how you express your dissenting viewpoint?

Have you ever been impressed by someone's "nice disagreement"? From your observations, what makes a gentle answer more effective than a harsh one?

2. What aspects of your argument strategies tend to distance you from your "opponent" instead of moving you toward unity and reconciliation?

In light of Joab's choice, read Matthew 5:21-26. In what ways have you recently "murdered" those who disagreed with you?

3. Describe an argument, which in the middle of having, you literally forgot what the argument was really all about.

What does that reveal about the strategies used in that disagreement?

4. Describe a current disagreement you are having with someone.

Write out a prayer that expresses your commitment to working toward a *cooperative* solution instead of a *competitive* one. Include a simple outline of how you will pursue unity in this matter.

*Read through the Bible in a year!
Here is this week's schedule.
Don't worry about catching up,
just jump in. We'll start all over
again next year!*

Sunday

2Kgs. 13-15 & 2Cor. 4-5

Monday

2Kgs. 16-17 & 2Cor. 6-7

Tuesday

2Kgs. 18-19 & 2Cor. 8-9

Wednesday

2Kgs. 20-21 & 2Cor. 10-11

Thursday

2Kgs. 22-23 & 2Cor. 12-13

Friday

2Kgs. 24-25 & Gal. 1-2

Saturday

1Chr. 1-2 & Gal. 3-4