

June 19, 2022

Attitudes In Conflict, Part 5

by Warren Berkley

Anger Without Sin

“Be angry and do not sin.” (Eph. 4:26)

Anger is easy to start but sometimes hard to resolve without unnecessary conflict. Righteous anger is justified. Sin is never justified.

So here is a passage that offers permission, “Be angry,” but forbids sin, “do not sin.” It becomes a challenge to be so careful, so disciplined, so self-aware, that when we are upset, we gauge the expression of our anger so that it doesn’t lead to sin.

JUST KEEP READING. “Do not let the sun go down on your anger.” I used to think this meant, set a timer for 12 hours and stop your anger when the timer goes off. No, that’s not it. This is not a “down to the last minute” legalistic and simplistic rule. This is a picture that holds simple meaning. Your anger must be temporary, not ongoing. When it starts, make certain you will stop it before sin enters in.

How is anger stopped?

(1) As soon as it starts, consider what caused it. Did someone simply disagree with you? Did someone actually offend you? Did someone walk away from? Did someone hurt someone you love? Is there some wise action you can take? Is there a conflict that can be peacefully resolved? These questions are introspective, causing you to pause

and explore the cause, so as to monitor the time you devote to it. The time and energy should be in proportion to all the factors involved in the provocation or cause.

(2) Pray about the matter. It isn’t easy to pray and be angry at the same time. Prayer about the issue sincerely offered to God, asking for wisdom and strength can keep the anger contained in that temporary time frame. You can then move away from the anger to more productive thinking and living.

(3) Is your anger due to a matter of faith or a matter of opinion? This is critical in determining if you should even be upset. And if so, what steps you need to take, if any. If a matter of faith, that is a level that requires more than a matter of opinion. Read carefully the 14th chapter of Romans, and make a prayerful determination. If someone disagreed with you 20 years ago over a matter of individual judgment, and you are still remembering and marinating in that – well, that’s an immature waste of time.

(4) Watch your front door! When there is anger in your “house,” the devil is at your front door. He wants to come in and lead you into sin, but “...give no opportunity to the devil.” Don’t let him turn that seed into an evil plant that devours you and hurts others.

There is no such thing as legitimate

Welcome!

When you visit our assemblies, you will be received friendly, kindly and courteously. We believe this to be the natural attitude of those who truly love God and mankind. Though you may at first be among strangers, we hope that you will come to know us well and count us as your friends.

We offer Bible studies as well as correspondence courses for those interested in learning more about what God expects of us.

Important Dates

Our summer meeting with Mike Walls is scheduled for June 19-22

Bulverde Summer Series each Thursday evening through the summer on “Love One Another”

Youth Weekend at Cedar Park June 24-26

Our fall meeting with Zeke Flores is scheduled for September 18-21

If you know of upcoming events, please inform Darrell so they can be included here.

anger that justifies an illegitimate response!

“This you know, my beloved brethren. But let everyone be quick to hear, slow to speak and slow to anger; for the anger of man does not achieve the righteousness of God” (James 1:19–20).

Prayer Requests

Jack Wilson is still struggling with pain and limited mobility. His recent shots have not helped.

Jerry Richardson is still undergoing treatments to strengthen his immune system.

Karen Hallmark has improved but continues to struggle and could use our prayers.

Dinah Williams is in rehab for her foot but hopes to be home soon.

Don Simmons is home and still struggling with his breathing; he is on oxygen at all times. **Alene** is having hip issues.

John Miller (Dyanne Turner’s brother) has complete all his scheduled treatments and is waiting for results and decisions for next steps.

Debbie McMurray had her last chemo treatment but has begun radiation.

Randall Vanaman is in rehab recovering from an infection.

If you know of someone that needs to be on this list, please tell Darrell (email preferred) and provide updates so names stay on the list as long as needed.

“praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end, keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints,”
(Ephesians 6:18 ESV)

The Oaks West church of Christ is a group of individual Christians who have been added to the Lord’s body through baptism (Acts 2:38, 47; Gal 3:26, 27), and have joined themselves together (Acts 2:42ff) in an effort to do the Lord’s will.

We are not a part of any larger organization - we do not follow any man-made creeds and we do not answer to anyone other than the Lord.

Our standard of faith and practice is the Word of God. We believe in the God of revelation (Eph 3:1-7; 2 Tim 3:16-17) and follow his instructions in an effort to have an ongoing relationship with him (1 John 4:7-11; 5:3).

Our times of study and worship are open to all, and our members are happy to meet with interested individuals or families for study.

Evangelist

Darrell Trammel
512-756-4493 Office
Darrell@
oakswestchurchofChrist.com

Elders

George Gresham
Jim Johnson
Darrell Trammel

Contact Us

Address:
P.O. Box 675
Burnet, TX 78611

Call:
(512) 756-4493

E-Mail:
oakswestchurch@gmail.com

Website:
oakswestchurchofchrist.com