



North Church Message Notes

Climate Change Storm Clouds

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TWO WORDS and TWO PRAYERS that help us navigate the conflicts we've been avoiding, mismanaging, or are in the midst of.

Never let LOYALTY and KINDNESS leave you!
Tie them around your neck as a reminder. Write them deep within your heart.

Then you will find favor with both God and people, and you will earn a good reputation.

— Proverbs 3:3-4 NLT

For Conflict Avoiders — LOYALTY

In Hebrew — faithfulness, reliability, trustworthiness, loyalty

The Conflict Avoiders Prayer—

Jesus, give me the strength to push beyond my comfort, past, and fears. Use my clumsiness with words and emotions in conflict to build trust and strengthen our relationship.

For Conflict Enjoyers KINDNESS—(Love NIV // Steadfast Love in ESV)

In Hebrew — loyal love, devotion, kindness, often based on a prior relationship, especially a covenant relationship

Someone who is kind...

- Listens
- Gives back better than they are given
- Recognizes their own imperfections—their climate
- Strives for Genuinity over Accuracy.

“A gentle answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger.”

— Proverbs 15:1

The Fundamental Attribution Error—

The tendency of human beings to attribute the negative or frustrating behaviors of others to their intentions and personalities, while attributing their own negative or frustrating behaviors to environmental factors.

Before you move to Motive — STOP, sit down, and ask a few critical questions—
Here are some questions to ask...

- I genuinely care about you and what's going on between us.

Will you help me understand?

- How have I contributed to the conflict?
- This is what I heard you say, is that what you meant?

The Conflict Enjoyers prayer—

“Jesus, help me identify where my climate is contributing to conflicts around me. Help me hear even more than I want to be heard.”

Choose Loyalty. Choose Loving-kindness

I’m praying that you will be bold and courageous as you approach the storm clouds of conflict that surround...And remember, if you’re bold enough, ask someone, what’s the weather like around me these days?

Next Week—

Our choices shape the climate around us...Negativity and its toxic effect on the air around us.