

Mending!

6-21-11

10:17 a.m.

Here are two things you must do in order to mend a broken relationship: (1) Attack the problem, not the person. You can't fix the problem if you're obsessed with fixing the blame. In resolving any conflict, how you say it is as important as what you say. If you say it defensively, you'll be received defensively. Nagging doesn't work. You're never persuasive when you're abrasive! Don't use words that are condemning, belittling, comparing, labeling, insulting, condescending or sarcastic. Use only helpful words so what you say will do good to those who hear you. (2) Focus on your relationship, not your differences. It's unrealistic to expect everybody to agree about everything. But when we focus on the relationship, the problem loses its significance. We can agree without being disagreeable. We can walk arm-in-arm without seeing eye-to-eye. Reconciliation means burying the hatchet, not necessarily the issue. So who do you need to contact? With whom do you need to restore fellowship? Don't put off tomorrow what you can do today!

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