

Relationship Killers, Part 1

Series: Relationships

“Love is very patient and kind, never jealous or envious, never boastful or proud, never haughty or selfish or rude. Love does not demand its own way. It is not irritable or touchy. It does not hold grudges and will hardly even notice when others do it wrong. It is never glad about injustice, but rejoices whenever truth wins out. If you love someone, you will be loyal to him no matter what the cost. You will always believe in him, always expect the best of him, and always stand your ground in defending him.” 1 Corinthians 13:4-7 (TLB)

How To Kill A Good Relationship

1. Be Irritable

“Love...is not irritable or touchy.” 1 Corinthians 13:5 (TLB)

“The start of a quarrel is like a leak in a dam, so stop it before it bursts.” Proverbs 17:14 (MSG)

“Always be humble and gentle. Be patient with each other, making allowance for each other’s faults because of your love.” Ephesians 4:2 (NLT)

“God loves you and has chosen you as his own special people. So be gentle, kind, humble, meek, and patient.” Colossians 3:12 (CEV)

Ask Yourself

Which expectation of mine is being denied, delayed, or disrupted?

How To Fight Irritability

Take my unmet expectation to God and ask Him for His help and strength to do what’s right toward the other person.

2. Hold Onto A Grudge

“Love...does not hold grudges.” 1 Corinthians 13:5 (TLB)

“Do not seek revenge or bear a grudge against a fellow Israelite, but love your neighbor as yourself. I am the Lord.” Leviticus 19:18 (NLT)

“But when you are praying, first forgive anyone you are holding a grudge against, so that your Father in heaven will forgive your sins, too.” Mark 11:25 (NLT)

“Be gentle and ready to forgive; never hold grudges. Remember, the Lord forgave you, so you must forgive others.” Colossians 3:13 (TLB)

Ask Yourself

Who do I need to forgive?

How To Fight Grudges

Pray God will bless those I feel offended by.

3. Have A Judgmental Spirit

“If you love someone, you will be loyal to him no matter what the cost. You will always believe in him, always expect the best of him, and always stand your ground in defending him.”

1 Corinthians 13:7 (TLB)

“Do not judge others, and you will not be judged. For you will be treated as you treat others. The standard you use in judging is the standard by which you will be judged. And why worry about a speck in your friend’s eye when you have a log in your own? How can you think of saying to your friend, ‘Let me help you get rid of that speck in your eye,’ when you can’t see past the log in your own eye? Hypocrite! First get rid of the log in your own eye; then you will see well enough to deal with the speck in your friend’s eye.” Matthew 7:1-5 (NLT)

“Don’t grumble about each other, brothers. Are you yourselves above criticism? For see! The great Judge is coming. He is almost here. Let him do whatever criticizing must be done.” James 5:9 (TLB)

“Do all that you can to live in peace with everyone.” Romans 12:18 (NLT)

Ask Yourself

Am I doing all that I can do to live in peace with everyone?

How To Fight A Judgmental Spirit

Dwell on 3 good and positive qualities about the other person.