

Rules for Resolving Disputes

1. Remember that Jesus said, "Blessed are the peacemakers" and not "Blessed are the argument winners."
2. Resolve the problem as quickly as reasonably possible.
3. Keep it as private as possible.
4. Turn down the volume.
5. Name calling and foul language only intensify the situation.
6. Identify and address the problem, not each other.
7. Do not exaggerate the facts.
8. Any dramatization is over-dramatization.
9. Stay on the subject. Address one problem at a time.
10. Do not manipulate by taking all of the blame.
11. Work just as hard to understand the other person as you do to make yourself understood.
12. Always, always, always be honest with yourself and the other person.
13. Act and respond as if God was watching you (He is).
14. Never argue in public or in front of the kids.
15. Keep a sense of humor.