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**The Cure For Unnecessary Drama**

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(1st Peter 3:8-11 KJV)

*8Finally, be ye all of one mind, having compassion one of another, love as brethren, be pitiful, be courteous: 9Not rendering evil for evil, or railing for railing: but contrariwise blessing; knowing that ye are thereunto called, that ye should inherit a blessing.10For he that will love life, and see good days, let him refrain his tongue from evil, and his lips that they speak no guile:*

*11Let him eschew evil, and do good; let him seek peace, and ensue it.*

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e all have had our share of Drama haven't we! And let's be honest it’s all around us. We have Drama in politics. We have Drama with our siblings. There's always some type of Drama surfacing at work, home and school. Why? Why does life always seem to be so occupied with so much unnecessary Drama? Sadly when there is drama in our lives it places everything that we value in danger.

In a "Peanuts" cartoon, Lucy says to Snoopy: "There are times when you really bug me, but I must admit there are also times when I feel like giving you a big hug."

Snoopy replies: "That's the way I’ll always be huggable and buggable."

And so it is with us and our relationships. We need each other, yet we annoy each other.

We are like the two porcupines that were huddled close together on a cold, cold night in northern Canada. The closer they came into contact with each other in order to stay warm, the more their quills pricked each other, making it virtually impossible for them to remain side by side. Silently, they scooted apart. And before long, they were shivering in the wintry gale, so they came back together. But shortly thereafter they both were poking and jabbing each other, so they separated again. In other words same story, same result!

They needed each other, but they needled each other.

Sadly oftentimes we play this disorderly dance of disharmony. The people to whom we are the closest are those with whom we experience the most conflict. In friendships, we are off again and on again. In fact before marriage opposites attract, but after marriage opposites attack. In church, as the old saying goes: "We long to live in heaven, together in God's glory. To live together down on earth, well, that's another story."

In the text Peter instructed, "All of you should be like-minded and sympathetic, should love believers, and be compassionate and humble" (1 Peter 3:8) or as the NIV translates it "All of you, live in harmony with one another." "All of you" pretty much cover everyone, doesn't it? No one can say "I'm exempt," or "it doesn't apply to me."

Peter is stating here that we ought to "Live in harmony" doesn't imply uniformity, nor does it imply unanimity, nor does it imply, union, where everyone is affiliated with each other, but there is no common bond. Harmony is to have an oneness of heart, a similarity of purpose. "With one another" is the relational rub. What are we to do?

Ironically conflict will always be inevitable. I’ve noticed in fact that when more than two people come together there’s always potential for increased disagreements. Now for example any moving machine will experience friction. The only way to eliminate the friction is to stop the machine from operating entirely. Likewise, any living relationship will experience some degree of conflict. The only way to stop conflict is to kill the association between the both of you. The goal in operating a machine is to reduce the friction as much as possible. This improves efficiency and prolongs life. The goal of any relationship should be of the same reciprocity.

When dealing with Drama let's be honest that stopping something is harder than starting something. When something starts and picks up momentum it is difficult to slow down its energy. You don’t have to say it—so let me say it for you, “Drama is draining, and it’s frustrating, exasperating, aggravating and exhibits’ side ways energy.

1. **The Details Of The Believers’ Conduct:**

(1st Peter 3:8 KJV)

*Finally, be ye all of one mind, having compassion one of another, love as brethren, be pitiful, be courteous:*

Our problem with this passage can be stated quite simply: When we need it, we can’t find it. And when we don’t need it, we don’t pay any attention to it. As long as life is going well and all our relationships are in order, we tend to ignore passages like this. After all, if you are living in harmony with others—why do you do need to be informed on what you are already routinely doing? It’s easy to ignore these verses when the sun is shining, but it’s difficult to find a passage like this when the storm clouds begin to break over your head. In a similar vein, C. S. Lewis once remarked that “everyone thinks forgiveness is a lovely idea, until they have something or someone to forgive.”