



Guidelines for Our Discussions

In an effort to maximize our discussions and to do so in a manner that gives witness to our faith and trust in Jesus Christ, we agree to conduct our discussions according to the following guidelines:

1. All actions will be taken in a manner to glorify God.
So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God.
I Cor. 10:31
2. All discussions shall be confidential. Decisions regarding reporting to others will be discussed and agreed upon in advance at the conclusion of our meeting.
3. Think the best of one another. Do not assume bad motives.
Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves. Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others. Phil. 2:3-4

Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable--if anything is excellent or praiseworthy--think about such things. Phil. 4:8
4. Do not interrupt. Be quick to listen and slow to speak.
My dear brothers, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry. James 1:19

He who answers before listening--that is his folly and his shame. Proverbs 18:13
5. Speak the truth in love.
Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will in all things grow up into him who is the Head, that is, Christ. Eph. 4:15
6. Respectful discussions. Speak to build one another up, not to tear down.
Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen. Ephesians 4:29

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

Proverbs 15:1

7. Full and open disclosure

Simply let your `Yes' be `Yes,' and your `No,' `No'; anything beyond this comes from the evil one. Matthew 5:37

Therefore, each of you must put off falsehood and speak truthfully to his neighbor, for we are all members of one body. Ephesians 4:25

8. Breaks & Individual meetings. Each of us may ask for a break or individual meetings with the conciliators.

9. Do not debrief the meetings with each other, without the involvement of the conciliators.