

Follow this plan:

1. *Make sure that the behaviour is a sin.* Gossip is clearly a sin, but some other issues may not be so easy to define. Ask yourself, "Is this action or attitude contrary to a biblical standard? What verse? Have I been able to remain objective about this?"
2. *Do it in love.* If you're angry, calm down ([Proverbs 29:11](#)). Use a gentle tone ([25:15](#)). Make sure you're doing it for the right reasons ([16:2](#)). You're doing this because you care about the person who is gossiping as well as the person being gossiped about.
3. *Keep it private.* This is a matter that the entire world does not need to know about, so just keep it between the two of you ([Matthew 18:15](#)).
4. *Forgive.* This is vital so that the relationship can be restored and healthy, with no resentment on anyone's part ([Ephesians 4:32](#)).

Whether you call it confrontation or carefrontation, it's still hard to do. But when you do it because you care and because you want to follow God's plan, you'll be putting the "care" in confrontation. --AM

REFLECTION

- Why is it so hard to confront others?
- Are my motives pure when I confront someone? If they're not, what can I do to change that?
- How can I put the biblical principles of carefrontation into practice in my life?

Don't confront if you don't care.



Central Mountains Baptist Church

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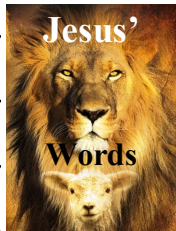
Carefrontation

The word *confrontation* comes with a lot of negative connotations. It churns up images of hurt, anger, bitterness. People don't like to confront others because it's just too painful. But avoiding confrontation doesn't take care of the problem at hand. Avoidance allows it to fester and grow and get out of control.

I have a suggestion for the touchy area of confrontation. There's a way to put a positive spin on it. Call it "*carefrontation*." Whenever you confront, make sure you do it because you care.

Carefrontation involves following certain biblical guidelines. Here's a scenario that might be familiar. A friend has been gossiping about another friend. You know that what's being said is wrong and you need to do something about it before rumours spread.





Don't Forget to.....

In Luke 17 Jesus describes 6 essentials of the Christian life that we are not to forget. We are not to forget:

1. Do no _____, verses 1-2

(1 Corinthians 8:10-13) For if anyone sees you who have knowledge eating in an idol's temple, will not the conscience of him who is weak be emboldened to eat those things offered to idols? (11) And because of your knowledge shall the weak brother perish, for whom Christ died? (12) But when you thus sin against the brethren, and wound their weak conscience, you sin against Christ. (13)

Therefore, if food makes my brother stumble, I will never again eat meat, lest I make my brother stumble.

(1 John 2:1) My little children, these things I write to you, so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous.



Craig Hawkins

2. Make _____, verse 3

#1. Sin

#2. _____ to yourself,

◆ Do I desire to _____,

(1 Corinthians 10:31) Therefore, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.

◆ Can I overlook this _____?

(1 Peter 4:8) And above all things have fervent love for one another, for "LOVE WILL COVER A MULTITUDE OF SINS."

◆ Is there anything in my _____?

(Matthew 7:3-5) And why do you look at the speck in your brother's eye, but do not consider the plank in your own eye? (4) Or how can you say to your brother, 'Let me remove the speck from your eye'; and look, a plank is in your own eye? (5) Hypocrite! First remove the plank from your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother's eye.

The seven A's of a good confession are:

◆ _____ all involved

(Psalms 51:4) Against You, You only, have I sinned, And done this evil in Your sight...

◆ _____ excuses



◆ _____ specifically
◆ _____ the hurt
◆ _____ the consequences

(2 Samuel 16:10) ...So let him curse, because the LORD has said to him, 'Curse David.' Who then shall say, 'Why have you done so?' "

◆ _____ your behaviour,
(Proverbs 28:13) He who covers his sins will not prosper, But whoever confesses and forsakes them will have mercy.

◆ _____ for forgiveness

(1 Samuel 25:28) Please forgive the trespass of your maidservant. ...

(Ephesians 4:32) And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you.

#3. C _____,

(Galatians 6:1) Brethren, if a man is overtaken in any trespass, you who are spiritual restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness, considering yourself lest you also be tempted.

How to give a godly rebuke: (PAUSE)

P _____,
(Proverbs 15:28) The heart of the righteous studies how to answer,

(Philippians 2:3-4) Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself. (4) Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others.

A _____,
(Luke 6:27-28) "But I say to you who hear: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, (28) bless those who curse you, and pray for those who spitefully use you.

U _____ them,

(Proverbs 10:32) The lips of the righteous know what is acceptable, ...

(Proverbs 10:11) The mouth of the righteous is a well of life, ...

S _____ solutions,

(Proverbs 10:31) The mouth of the righteous brings forth wisdom, ...

E _____,

