

Sermon Notes

The Christian Attitude for Conflict Resolution

Philippians 4:1-5

Christian Sanich, 7/31/2016

Text sermon questions, during the sermon, to (602) 824-8030

3:20 We are citizens of heaven; don't act like everyone on earth.

4:1 Stand firm in the Lord against the attacks that will come.

Don't be pushed off your commitment to peace and unity.

Don't retreat because it's too hard or not worth it.

4:2 The right attitude will lead to right actions.

Like Christ - selfless, thinking about others not just self

Both people are to work toward peace and unity.

Do you currently have an unresolved issue?

4:3 Join in helping your brothers/sisters work it out

We are bound together in Christ.

Can you think of any current situations between other Christians?

Help - encourage them to go, or offer mediate

4:4 Rejoice always in the Lord

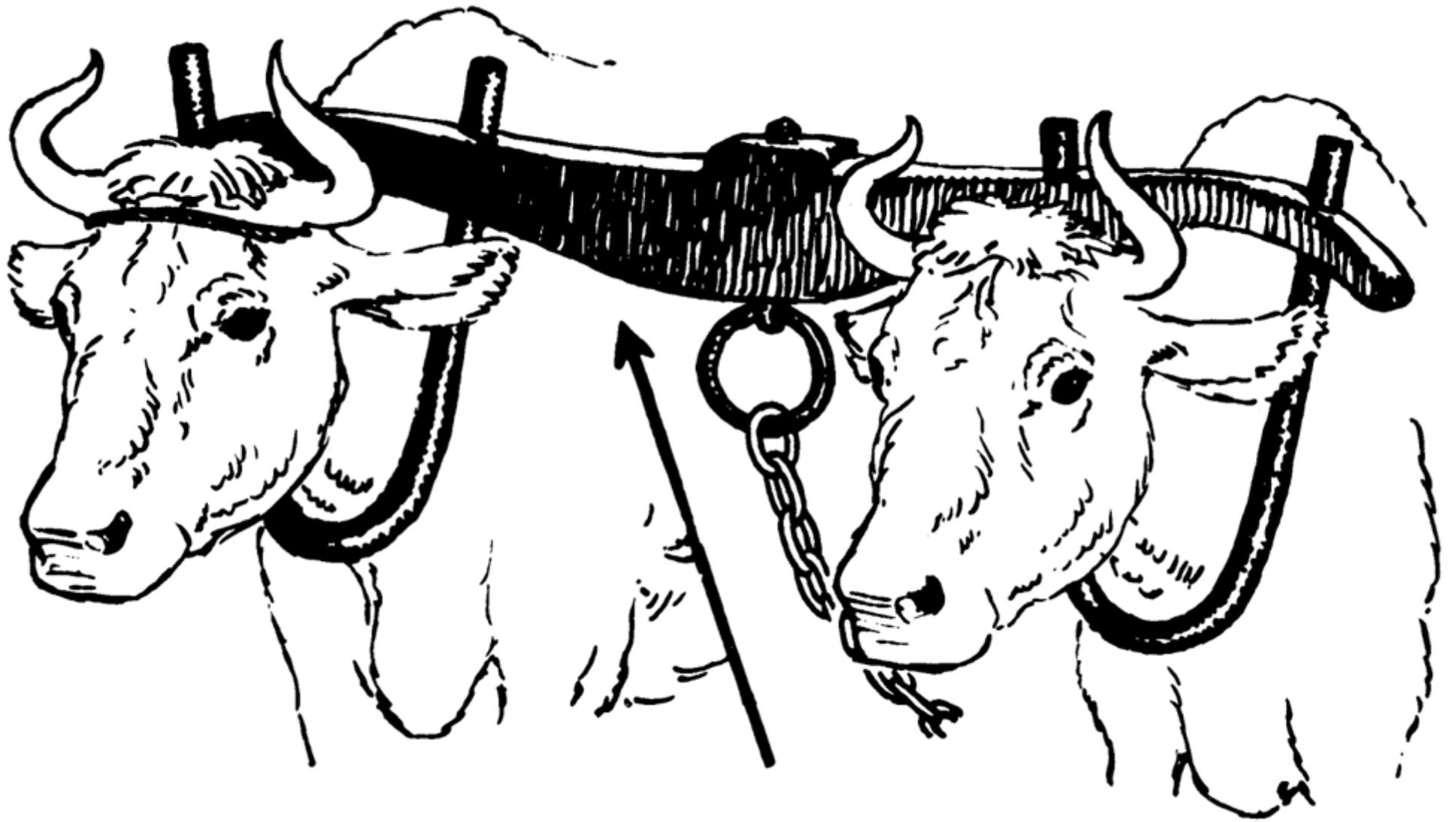
4:5 Be known for being reasonable

Not insisting on your rights, or that everything go your way

Be thoughtful of the other person's side and their feelings, not just your own.

Yield to the other person. Let go of some of your demands.

Recommended reading: both people are to go, Matt. 5:23-24, 18:15; do what you can, Romans 12:18; attitude like Christ, Philippians 2:1-8



The Christian Attitude for Conflict Resolution

There are several yes/no questions today. It's okay just to answer yes/no, even in your own head, and move on, because there are many questions to get through.

This first two-part question is just to answer in your own head.

With regard to how you treat relationships and reconciliation, are you willing to act different than most of the other people around you? Are you willing to act different than you usually do (if that way is not in line with what God says)?

Share: How do you see other people or yourself act, that you want to act differently?

(Ask everyone answer. Because our attitude on this will determine our actions.)

Do you view yourself as bound to other Christians? Do you think of yourselves as eternal family?

If so, have you thought this way for long, or is it recent, and how did you come around to it?
If not, is your thinking changing? If not, what are you not convinced of?

Just think about this and answer in your head.

Do you currently have some unresolved issue with a brother or sister in Christ?

Will you plan to go to them to try to talk it out, work it out?

You could just answer in your head, or you could share your commitment with the group.

Do you plan in the future, that when you have issues with a brother or sister in Christ, you will do everything you can to work it out?

If not, what is holding you back from that commitment?

Just think about this and answer in your head.

Can you think of a Christian who has complained to you about another Christian?

Will you plan to go help, by encouraging them not to complain and encouraging them to go talk to the person they have the issue with?

If they have already gone to the person and didn't get it resolved, the next question is relevant.

Just think about this and answer in your head.

Can you think of two Christians who have a difference or conflict, who have talked about it but they are still at odds (even if they are now ignoring it, writing it off)?

Will you plan to go to them and offer to meet with both parties to try to help them work it out?

Do you plan for the future, to get involved in the ways mentioned, to help your brothers and sisters in Christ?

If not, what is holding you back from that commitment?

(Make sure so make it to this question, and ask everyone answer.)

When you talk to people about differences, conflicts, things that bug you, are you "reasonable" - thoughtful of the other person's side/perspective, thoughtful of the other person's feelings, not insistent everything go your way, yielding to the other person?

What do you think needs to change?

Bonus:

Was there anything new or interesting you learned in this sermon?