## A Biblical Perspective on Conflict and Difficult People

## Remember:

- 1. You have no biblical responsibility to change others—only yourself (Luke 15).
- 2. Focus on making yourself a better person especially by growing closer to Christ.
- 3. You must develop and practice a biblical framework in which to process these "incompatible" peoples' actions.

## **Towards Some Solutions:**

- A) First of all, you are a new creation who finds yourself in a situation that can be overcome through the power of Christ (II Cor. 5:17, I Cor. 10:13, Rom. 12:1-2).
- B) One of the largest root issues that you must overcome is to see things from somebody else's perspective: First of all Christ's, then others, then yourself (**I am third!**) (Phil. 2:3). You must point them to Christ in your dealings with them (Phil. 2:15-16).
- C) False view: "I know I am right and my way is better. This person would no longer be a difficult person if they would just see it my way."

## Godly Practices:

- 1. Don't go over it in your head, move on.
- 2. Hope for the best, live with the rest.
- 3. Don't condition yourself to anticipate the worst.
- 4. Choice Management: You am in charge of your own emotions!
- 5. You need to deal with your part of the responsibility.
- 6. Keep it in perspective—it is not a big deal.
- 7. Other people are a combination of good *and* bad, they are not <u>all</u> bad.
- 8. The world is unfair, so just accept it and deal with it.
- 9. Don't take it personally.