

Reconciling Joy  
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Introduction: The damage to community and witness caused by disputes in the church

Key Question: How do we deal with conflict in the church?

We must face...

- I. The reality of personal conflict in the church
  - a. Different Personalities (v2)
  - b. Different Priorities (v3)
  
- II. The ruin of personal conflict in the church revealed in ...
  - a. The urgency of the peace (v2)
  - b. The consequences of the mess (v3)
    - i. Dispute undermines Christ's priorities (for community)
    - ii. Dispute undermines our labors (for witness)
    - iii. Dispute undermines our peace (for sleep)
  
- III. The resolution of personal conflict in the church
  - a. Responsibilities of the helpers
    - i. Address each person (v2)
    - ii. Identify consequences (v2-3)
    - iii. Help with third party, if needed (v3)
  - b. Responsibilities of disputers
    - i. Remain sensitive to Holy Spirit
    - ii. Consider the consequences for community + witness
    - iii. Seek the mind of Christ

What if it doesn't work? "Agree in the Lord"

Conclusion: Norma McCorvey, alias Jane Rue