

“Getting Along With People”

Romans 12:18

Tuesday Bible Lunch

May 12, 2026

“Do all that you can to live in peace with everyone” (Romans 12:18, NLT).

“If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all (“Romans 12:18, ESV).

Introduction: The world would be a better place if people got along with each other. The workplace would be more enjoyable if all the employees got along with each other. Marriages would be better if the husbands and wives all got along with each other.

You can’t control what other people do in relationships, but you can control what you do in relationships.

Now some people are hard to get along with. Some are impossible. Some are easy.

Question: What can you do to get along with people?

1. Live the Golden Rule (Matthew 7:12).

- Do to other people what you would want them to do to you.
- Treat other people like you want them to treat you.
- We were taught this as children.

Illustration: Last week I had an experience where two ladies lived the Golden Rule to me. (To hear the story, listen to the message on our church web page www.fbp.org). (Gift cards at Beyond)

Illustration: It used to be that the customer was always right. In Successful businesses the customer is always right.

Application: Do all you can to live the Golden Rule.

T.S. Another thing you can do to get along with people is think before you respond.

2. Think before you respond (James 1:19).

“Let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, and slow to wrath: (James 1:19, NKJ).

“Let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, and slow to anger” (James 1:19, ESV).

“Whoever keeps his mouth and his tongue keeps himself out of trouble” (Proverbs 21:23, ESV).

“In the multitude of words sin is not lacking, but he who restrains his lips is wise” (Proverbs 10:19).

Illustration: My mother used to tell me repeatedly to count to ten before responding.

Application: Think before you speak. If you are not good at thinking, then count to ten!

3. Don't throw logs on the fire (Proverbs 26:20).

“Where there is no wood the fire goes out...” (Proverbs 26:20).

Illustration: One of the many good things that happened to me in my years as pastor of First Baptist Church in Sulphur Springs was know Phillip and Edith Smith. On his 70th wedding anniversary I learned a great lesson. (To hear the story listen to the message on the church web page www.fbp.org).

Application: At home, at work, everywhere we will all do better not to throw logs on the fire!

4. Concede what can be conceded (Genesis 13:8-9).

- Abraham is a good example to follow.

- Lot chose the plain of Jordan (Genesis 13:11).
- Abraham dwelt in Canaan (Genesis 13:12).

Illustration: The old saying “you may lose the battle, but you will win the war” is so true.

Application: Concede what can be conceded.

Conclusion: The anonymous poem says it well: “To live above with the saints we love, oh, that will be glory. But to live below with the saints we know, well, that’s a different story.”