

***It is a dream** where we will serve the poor, take care of the sick, and love those who have walked down the wrong paths of life because that is where you actually meet Christ.*

***It is a dream** that we will keep simple. LOVE GOD, LOVE PEOPLE. And we will allow no other issues to get in our way.*

“Your fasting ends in quarreling and strife, and in striking each other with wicked fists. You cannot fast as you do today and expect your voice to be heard on high.”
Isaiah 58:4 (NIV)

“I pray that they may all be one. Father! May they be in us, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they be one, so that the world will believe that you sent me.” John 17:21 (GNT)

Conflict is inevitable...Misery is Optional

“This is what the LORD says: ‘Stand at the crossroads and look; ask for the ancient paths, ask where the good way is, and walk in it, and you will find rest for your souls.’”
Jeremiah 6:16 (NIV)

=Picture of Elephant

“After some time Paul said to Barnabas, ‘Let's return to each city where we previously preached the word of the Lord, to see how the new believers are getting along.’”

“Barnabas agreed and wanted to take along John Mark.

“But Paul disagreed strongly, since John Mark had deserted them in Pamphylia and had not shared in their work.

“Their disagreement over this was so sharp that they separated. Barnabas took John Mark with him and sailed for Cyprus. Paul chose Silas, and the believers sent them off, entrusting them to the Lord's grace. So they traveled throughout Syria and Cilicia to strengthen the churches there.”
Acts 15:36-41 (NLT)

“Do your part to live in peace with everyone, as much as possible.” Romans 12:18 (NLT)

***Expect God to do something great in the midst of conflict.**

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***Forgive before engagement**

“You must make allowance for each other's faults and forgive the person who offends you. Remember, the Lord forgave you, so you must forgive others.” Colossians 3:13 (NLT)

“If you forgive those who sin against you, your heavenly Father will forgive you. But if you refuse to forgive others, your Father will not forgive your sins.” Matthew 6:14-15 (NLT)

“A man’s wisdom gives him patience; it is to his glory to overlook an offense.” Proverbs 19:11 (NIV)

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***Reject the world’s way of responding to conflict.**

***Forgive before engagement**

***Work toward a resolution without escalation or a victory dance**

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