

A CLASH OF CONVICTIONS

Conflict Between Christians

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Purpose & Peace Solutions

To learn more about plenary speaker, Dr. Janeen Davis, visit www.PurposeAndPeace.com



**What if
you're
wrong?**



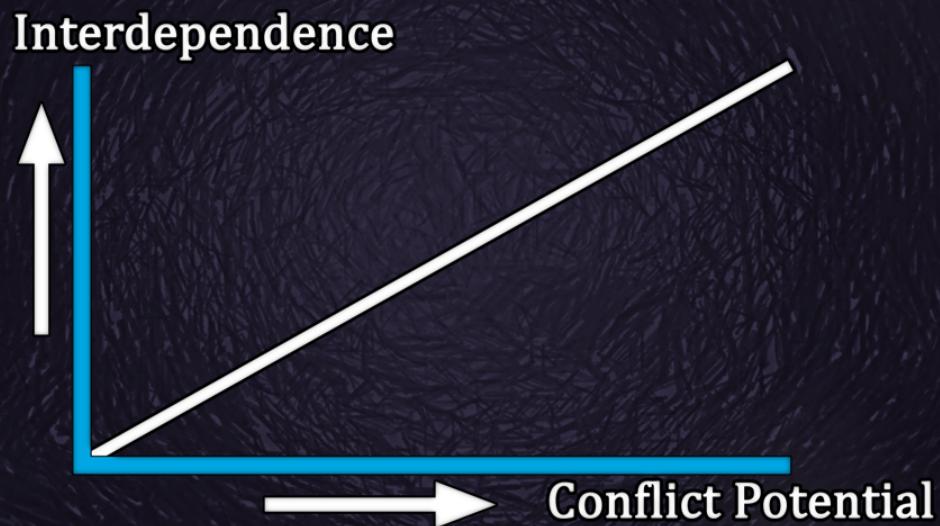
A CLASH OF CONVICTIONS

Disagreement



Division

Conflict on the Mission Field



Good Things That Hinder Holiness

**Parenting
Practices**

**Ministry
Methods**

**Lifestyle
Limits**

**Social
Standards**

Expectations that Cause Conflicts

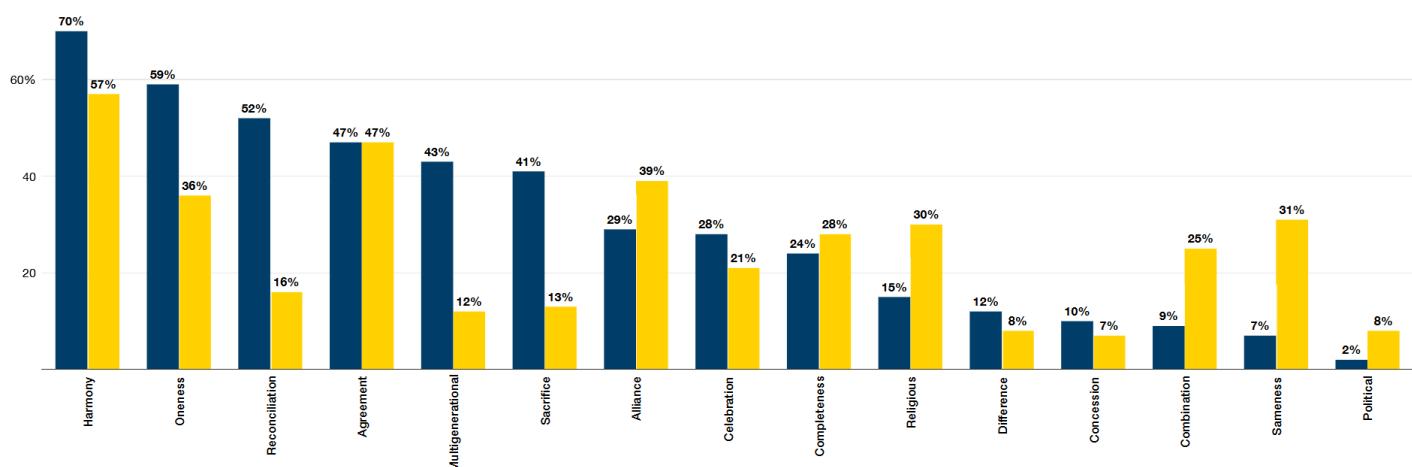
You cannot avoid conflict;
You can only avoid
conflict resolution.

PASTORS & CHRISTIANS ON TERMS ASSOCIATED WITH "UNITY"

Barna

Below is a list of words that might be associated with how one feels unified with others. Which of the following words would you most strongly associate with your experiences of "unity"? Select all that apply.

● Pastors ● Christians



n=426 U.S. pastors, July 7–18, 2022.

n=1,223 U.S. Christian adults, June 1–10, 2022. | Source: Barna Group | [Download image](#)

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<https://www.barna.com/research/pastors-christians-unity/>

Nearly Half of Pastors & Christians View Unity as “Agreement”

When asking Christians which terms they associate with experiences of *unity*, the definitions vary. Further, pastors and Christians differ in their opinions about the term as well. For pastors, words like “harmony” (70%), “reconciliation” (52%) and “sacrifice” (41%) come to mind, while Christians tend to say “alliance” (39%) or “sameness” (31%).

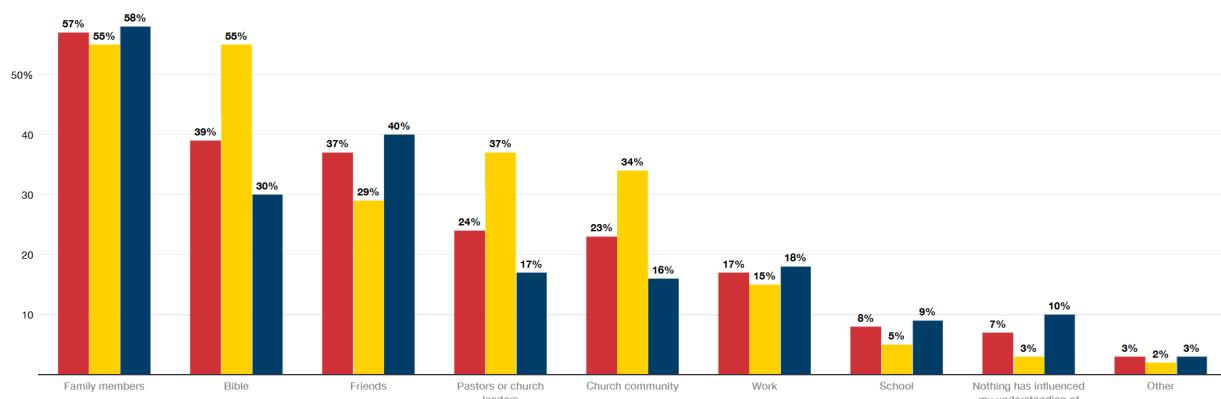
Pastors and Christians most align when they describe unity as “agreement.” Forty-seven percent of both pastors and Christians associate unity with this term.

INFLUENCES ON CHRISTIANS' UNDERSTANDING OF CONFLICT RESOLUTION

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Which of these has had the strongest influence on how you have learned to resolve conflict?

● Christians ● Practicing Christians ● Nonpracticing Christians



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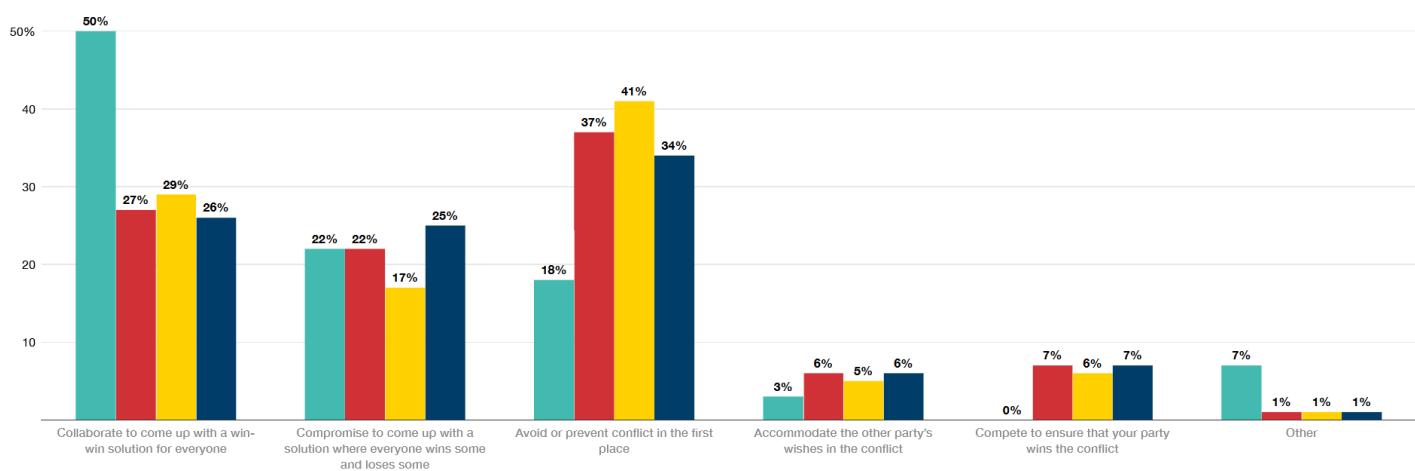
Overall, Christians say their family members have had the strongest influence on how they've learned to resolve conflict (57%). After this, they name the Bible (39%) and friends (37%) as most influential. Nearly one-quarter of Christians (24%) says pastors or church leaders have most influenced their approach to conflict resolution.

PASTORS' & CHRISTIANS' APPROACHES TO CONFLICT RESOLUTION

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Which is most similar to how you naturally approach conflict resolution?

● Pastors ● Christians ● Practicing Christians ● Nonpracticing Christians



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Asked about *how* they approach conflict resolution, pastors and Christians offer different, though not incompatible, approaches to pursuing peace. Half of pastors (50%) say they approach conflict resolution with a collaborative mindset. Meanwhile, the plurality of Christians (37%) prefers to avoid or prevent conflict in the first place.

Bible Verses Quoted: Galatians 5:22-23, Matthew 16:24-25, Titus 3:9-11

The One Another: (used with permission from Peace Pursuit)

God's expectations for all believers to one another

- Be at peace with one another (Mark 9:50b)
- Love one another (John 13:34)
- Be devoted to one another (Romans 12:10a)
- Honor one another (Romans 12:10b)
- Live in harmony with one another (Romans 12:16)
- Do not pass judgment on one another (Romans 14:13)
- Accept one another (Romans 15:7)
- Teach one another (Colossians 3:16)
- Admonish one another (Colossians 3:16)
- Exhort one another (Hebrews 10:25)
- Serve one another (Galatians 5:13)
- Bear one another's burdens (Galatians 6:2)
- Forebear (put up with) one another, in humility (Ephesians 4:2)
- Be kind and compassionate to one another (Ephesians 4:32)
- Forgive one another (Ephesians 4:32, Colossians 3:13)
- Submit to one another (Ephesians 5:21)
- Don't lie to one another (Colossians 3:9)
- Comfort one another (1 Thessalonians 4:18)
- Build up each other (1 Thessalonians 5:11)
- Don't speak evil of one another (James 4:11)
- Don't grumble against each other (James 5:9)
- Confess your faults to one another (James 5:16)
- Pray for one another (James 5:16)
- Have fellowship with one another (1 John 1:7)
- Encourage each other (1 Thessalonians 4:18)
- Seek to do good to one another (1 Thessalonians 5:15)
- Do not provoke one another (Galatians 5:26)
- Regard one another as more important than yourselves; do not merely look out for your own personal interests, but also for the interests of others. (Philippians 2:3-4)

Entertain the possibility that you might be wrong

A clash of convictions doesn't justify division in the bride of Christ

Is it possible
you're not
the hero
in this story?



We must train one another
to love peace
MORE
than we love
our own convictions