

Pursuing Peace

Part II: Overcoming the painful results of presumption

Proverbs 13:10

A) The pain of presumption

Presumption leads to strife (Prov 13:10).

Primary Point: Presuming bad things about other people is a painful sin in our life.

Presumption is making false conclusions before you have all the facts. In other words, to presume usually results in believing a lie.

B) Biblical rules against presumption

You must not convict anyone of a crime on the testimony of only one witness (Deut 19:15; cf. Prov 18:17; 1 Cor 13:7).

C) Overcoming presumption

1) **Have correct theology on the Christian's heart.** (Jer 17:9; Ezek 36:26-27; Matt 5:8)

2) **Follow the Golden Rule** (Matt 7:12).

3) **Ask the question**

"I think I misunderstood you earlier. Did you mean _____ when you said (or did) _____?"

Discussion ?'s

1) What was especially meaningful to you about the Sunday message?

2) Can you share an example of when presumption caused unnecessary pain in your life? (No need to share any names)

3) Why is Deut 19:15 a repeated command in Scripture?

4) How does a biblical theology of the Christian's heart help us to believe the best about them?

5) How does the Golden Rule help us do the right thing when we are offended or have a darkened view of someone?

6) Why is it hard to approach someone about a probable misunderstanding? What can help you do the right thing?