

RISING GENERATIONS

THE UPPER ROOM

10 Ways to Disagree without Fighting

Karen M. Leet

1. Listen first. Hear the other person's viewpoint without interrupting or arguing.
2. Try to see the other point of view. How would you feel if you were in that person's shoes?
3. Be patient as the other person expresses views.
4. Think before you speak. Then state your view calmly.
5. Be respectful. No matter how much you disagree, treat the other person with respect. Remind yourself that God loves that other person the same way God loves you.
6. Pray! Before, during, and after any confrontation or disagreement, ask God to guide you and help you to resolve conflicts.
7. Look for compromise. Prayerfully try to find a way to settle things that's fair to both sides.
8. Keep your faith in God. In trying to understand and to compromise, don't give up on the things you know are right.
9. Forgive. If someone says something unkind, ask God to help you to forgive. Don't hold a grudge.
10. Be a peacemaker. As much as possible, try to get along with others. Even if a conflict doesn't work out the way you hoped, keep asking for God's help.