

And he would say, Now you know I didn't mean it that way, I didn't mean it that way at all. And she would forgive him and then the same thing would happen again. Then one day he said to her, You know, I can forget those things. I don't remember them a minute after I've said them. Well, she said, I can't forget them. She could not forget them, and she got a divorce for him. Well, I don't know the woman any further, I don't ~~know~~ know anything about her character other than that bare amount she told me, but I would caution that it is easy to let yourself go out and say what you don't mean. To let yourself go in a way that irritates others and destroys relationships that you want to build up and you want to care for.

Hold your peace, yes. But if there is a true matter where the other person is in the wrong and a matter where you can do something about it, do it, don't wait, don't just hold your peace. I have occasionally ~~this~~ this. Ordinarily ~~speak~~ speak rather gently, but I have occasionally in my lifetime found that a good sharp rejoinder, a good straight sound word accomplished 50 times more than speaking tactfully. There are a few such occasions. Do not make them often, and think before you do them but they do occur. Think whether you can do anything about the particular situation. We all live in life in situations where we can't do anything about it.

Some years ago we had a very fine fellow who was a student in the seminary, who during the summer when our secretaries had gone away from the seminary, he was a good typist and he would offer to help out in ~~and~~ and he helped out. One day I started talking with him, and he said, I don't see why you don't do this! And I explained it to him. And he said, I don't see why you don't do this! And I explained it to ~~ix~~ him. And we talked on for 10 minutes. And he saw that in the details of handling and administering the seminary, there were many details he didn't know about. ~~Z~~ And not knowing about them he jumped to conclusions and became irritated about things and wondered why we didn't do things in a certain way. When either the things he wanted were simply not possible or would have caused difficulties far worse than the ones he would have remedied. It is very easy for us to get irritated over things where we don't know the full facts, and it is very easy to get irritated over matters we can't help, and we have to put up with certain matters we can't help.

And when you do, when you are closely associated with someone you really love and you want to keep on good relations with them but there is something that irritates you, and gets on your nerves and you feel like yelling about it, well stop and think, Am I right? Suggest a slight change. If the person won't make it think, Is this relationship to this person mean ~~enough~~ enough to me to put up with this? And not let irritations ~~but~~ but put up with it and be satisfied and realize that it is ~~well~~ well worth it for the far greater values that you get from your association with that person. Learn when to hold your peace, and learn when to cry out like a travailing woman. Learn to know the situation. There is this about God. God does not simply lose His temper and burst out.