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Grounders:

Why does the man who lives on the sixth floor of an apartment building have to take the elevator up to the third floor and then walk up the steps for the remaining three floors, but in the morning he can take the elevator all the way down from the sixth to the first floor?

In conflict are you training to be a person who *ASKS*? Bring *riddles* to wise conflict management and experience the power of four concepts evidenced in the life of Christ (see Matt. 21:23-27; 22:1-40).

First, *ask* questions to engage the heart. Don't questions generate answers and statements produce resistance? When presented with debate, Jesus asked questions (Matt. 21:23-27). Second, *share a story* that turns the listener's ears into eyes. It might be a story that explains why you feel a particular way. Jesus told stories to keep people open to His message by turning their ears into eyes (Matt. 22:1-14; 13:10-17). Third, *key* on the other person's perspective with a puzzle or another question. Many people experience conflict without giving thought to the other person's perspective. Jesus looked at the heart. Then He engaged it with a puzzle or question (Matt. 22:15-22). Fourth, *speak Scripture*, humbly applying it to your role in the conflict. It might sound something like this, "You know, I've been reading Proverbs and attempting to apply it to my own life. Proverbs 18:13 says that a fool answers before listening and I don't want to do that." Jesus used the authority of Scripture to bring truth to conflict (Matt. 22:23-33, 34-40).

In Him,
Mitch