Reasonable and material

Titus 3:9-11 NLT
9 Do not get involved in foolish discussions about spiritual pedigrees or in quarrels and fights about obedience to Jewish laws. These kinds of things are useless and a waste of time. 10 If anyone is causing divisions among you, give a first and second warning. After that, have nothing more to do with that person. 11 For people like that have turned away from the truth. They are sinning, and they condemn themselves.

Over the years I have found that either of two character flaws can divide us from other people and most especially from our spouse.

*The first character flaw is being "unreasonable." *Unreasonable* is defined as: *not being governed by or acting according to reason; ABSURD.* Make sure any request you make of another is neither unreasonable nor kooky. A third party may, on occasion, be required to assess things objectively. I.e. It seldom goes well for a husband to tell his wife that her request is a little kooky.

Reasonable Unreasonable A little Kooky
_____/_____/_____

*The second character flaw is an inability to determine what is a "material" or critical issue and what is not. Mature people generally are able to determine what is important and needs to be discussed with the appropriate parties and what should be left unaddressed. Husbands and wives need to agree that they will never leave a "material" issue unaddressed. Equally important is the agreement that one spouse will not run the other into an "emotional corner" trying to dig up a "material issue" that actually does not exist. No one likes to be *psychoanalyzed* by their spouse. Assuming there is a problem in the relationship when there is none is the surest way to start a very real argument.

Matt 5:37 NIV
Simply let your 'Yes' be 'Yes,' and your 'No,' 'No'; anything beyond this comes from the evil one.