Pv. 6:16-19, "There are six things the LORD hates, seven that are detestable to Him: haughty eyes, a lying tongue, hands that shed innocent blood, a heart that devises wicked schemes, feet that are quick to rush into evil, a false witness who pours out lies and <u>a person who stirs up</u> conflict in the community."

I have seen, as many others probably have, the destruction of those who try to stir up conflict in a family and especially in the church family. It seems that it takes more effort to put out a fire than it is for a small spark to start it.

I believe the LORD hates conflict and discord among the family of God. We are called to be peacemakers, not feud starters. Mt. 5:9, "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called the children of God." Instead of being like those who are always looking for a fight or trying to cause problems, the body of Christ should be working together with our focus on the Head of the body, Jesus. Everything we do should be for Him. 1 Cor. 6:19-20, "Do you not know that your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your bodies." In fact, not only should we strive to be peacemakers, we should be reminded that we are His family. It is all about Him, not us. Ps. 133:1, "How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity!"

The evil one wants to steal, kill and destroy. He wants to tear down what the LORD is building up. We must be on our guard and make sure that our lives are in sync with the Spirit of our loving LORD.

Dear LORD, we need You to help us keep our eyes on you instead of on ourselves. It is so easy to get off track and look at things and people rather than You. Help our desire be to please and honor You alone. In Jesus Name, Amen.