

When it comes to relationships, consider sins and offenses like the multitude of marks on the walls. They remain permanent and visible until something erases them. The 'paint' that is needed is love, "...because love covers over a multitude of sins."

That is why Peter wrote that we should have "fervent love for one another". That doesn't mean sins aren't discussed, confessed, and forgiven. 'Painting' over sins with love isn't a way to ignore or hide them. Rather, love is the unconditional response to sin: "I love you in spite of anything and everything." Of all the responses one might have to a personal offense, *above all* let love be the main response. So if you are offended, slighted, or hurt by someone, try this: Love them unconditionally. Cover that offense with a fresh coat of love.

1 Peter 4:8 "Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins."