

## *Debate vs. Dialogue*

Debate pontificates,  
but dialogue  
communicates.

Debate wants to lecture,  
whereas dialogue  
desires to learn.

Debate depends on words;  
dialogue, however,  
relies on wisdom.

Debate alternates  
monologues;  
dialogue engages in  
conversation.

Debate wants to  
convince you;  
dialogue would rather  
understand you.

A debater faces an  
opponent;  
in dialogue  
there are only  
partners.

A debater looks  
to score;  
those in dialogue  
open a door.

Debate starts a  
tennis match;  
those in dialogue  
row the same boat.

A debater, right or wrong,  
wants to win;  
in dialogue only truth  
gains the victory.

To hesitate in debate  
is a disaster;  
to admit ignorance  
in dialogue  
is a step forward.

Debaters talk  
at each other;  
in dialogue  
you speak  
with one another.

Debaters are prone  
to name-calling;  
in dialogue  
you call each other  
by name.

So, when you talk,  
remember that  
it's not hard to go  
from debate to hate;  
but you can't be in dialogue  
without love.

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