



Dealing with the 500-Pound Gorilla in the Room - Conflict

Icebreaker: Do you love or hate conflict?

Read Together: Romans 12:17-18 (NIV),

Discuss:

- What does the Scripture for this section say?
- What was God speaking to you as you listened to Pastor Jason this week?
- What are key parts of the scripture that are important to remember?

Read Together: 1 Peter 3:7 (ESV), Matthew 5:23-24 (NIV),

Discuss: The effects of unresolved conflict in our relationships.

- What does the Scripture for this section say?
- Share an example of a time that conflict minimized your joy.
- Can you think of a time that conflict hindered your prayers?
- What posture do we take if we realize we are wrong?

Read Together: Matthew 12:34 (ESV), Genesis 3:10 (NIV), 2 Timothy 1:7 (NKJV)

Discuss: Dealing with relational conflict.

- What do the Scriptures for this section say?
- Do your words poke? Are they hostile?
- Are your thoughts harsh toward others?
- What is the overflow of your heart?
- What can you do to help bring reconciliation?

Read Together: Matthew 7:3-5 (NIV), 1 Peter 5:5 (ESV),

Discuss: Be honest about what you have done wrong.

- What do the Scriptures for this section say?
- Are you acting right?
- Is it easy for you to humble yourself? How do you react to making statements like, “I’m sorry.”, “I was wrong.” Or “I was only thinking of myself.”?

Read Together: James 1:19 (NIV), Philippians 2:4 (NLT)

Discuss: Listen and consider what they are saying.

- What do the Scriptures for this section say?

- How have you put these into practice in situations of conflict?

Read Together: Proverbs 12:18 (NIV)

Discuss: Be intentional with the words you use.

- What does the Scripture for this section say?
- What things can you say that will bring healing to conflicts in your life?

Read Together: Matthew 5:9 (NIV),

Discuss: Pursue reconciliation, not agreement.

- What does the Scripture for this section say?
- How do you feel about living at peace with someone you disagree with?
- Discuss how you could pursue living at peace with a person that you disagree with regarding issues that are important to you and your faith.

Pray:

Father, please show me how to live at peace with others. When conflicts arise, please show me what parts to take responsibility for and help me to be humble enough to own them. Please give me love for my fellow man and help me to seek peace in my relationships. Give me the courage to tell the truth and keep a close account of my attitude and actions. I need help to live at peace with others. Please teach me your ways! In the name of Jesus, Amen!