

Small Group Study

Creative Conflict Resolution

From the sermon series, "Family Matters"



Icebreakers

Use the questions below to help people open up and to focus your meeting. It is very helpful to go around in a circle with the leader going first. (Remember if you have new members or guests you should take time to introduce everyone.)



1. Tell us of a time (as a child) when you had a conflict with another child. How did it start? How did it end?
2. When you get in an argument, how do you tend to act? Do you fight to win? Do you get quiet and retreat? Do you get hurt easily?
3. Share one time when you experienced conflict in your life and something good came out of it.

SCRIPTURE

Have volunteers read the following scriptures:

- Matthew 18:15-22
- 2 Timothy 2:24-25
- 2 Timothy 4:2
- James 5:19-20
- James 5:16
- Proverbs 9:7-9
- Ephesians 4:15
- Colossians 1:28

QUESTIONS

1. Why should we confront one another? When should we do it? How should we do it?

- 2.** Have you ever had someone confront you about something you shouldn't be doing? How did they do it? How did you respond to it?
- 3.** Have you ever confronted someone else? How did it go? What did you learn from the encounter?
- 4.** Why is it important to deal with conflict quickly? What happens if we just ignore it? Have you ever waited too long to confront someone?
- 5.** One of the things we learn from scripture is the need to talk to the person one-on-one versus talking to another about that person. Why is that important? Have you ever wished that someone just came directly to you with their concern rather than going to others first?
- 6.** When is it appropriate to ask for forgiveness?
- 7.** How can we prevent miscommunication for occurring?
- 8.** What does it mean to "speak the truth in love"? How does one do that? Can you provide an example from your own experience? Why is this so crucial to healthy relationships?

God bless,
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