

Small Group Discussion Guide

Message: *First in Our Conflict*

Based on the Message by Pastor Adam Browett, Calvary Temple, February 9, 2025

Optional Icebreaker Question (choose one):

- “What’s the silliest argument you’ve ever had?” 🤔😏
(Example: "My sibling and I once argued for 30 minutes about whether a hot dog is a sandwich!")
 - “If you could settle all conflicts with a fun challenge, what would it be?” 🎯🎮
(Example: "Rock-paper-scissors? A dance battle? A Bible verse memory contest?")
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Discussion Questions:

1. Review Galatians 2:11-16.

- Peter tried to avoid conflict while Paul seemed to initiate conflict. Who do you relate to most? What is your typical approach to interpersonal disagreements?
- Do you agree that conflict is a normal part of life and relationships? How does the idea that “experiencing conflict doesn’t mean you’re a bad person, it just means you’re alive” make you feel?
- Bonus: Read Acts 15:36-41. Does this story about Paul and Barnabas conflict over John Mark shed any light on Paul’s personality or the way he handled conflict?

Questions to ask when you are experiencing conflict:

1. Am I Thinking Clearly? James 1:5

- James 1:5 tells us to ask God for wisdom. How can we pause and recognize our emotions before reacting in a heated moment?
- Have you ever experienced a time when prayer changed how you approached a conflict?

2. What Am I Feeling Right Now? Matthew 7:3-5

- Pastor Adam said that there are no such thing as positive or negative emotions, there are just emotions. What messages have you been taught about emotions?
- How can emotions act as signs rather than sins?
- Think of a recent conflict—what emotion drove your response? Was it fear, anger, or something else?

3. What Is My Goal? Romans 12:17-18

- Why should the goal be peace rather than winning? How is this different from avoiding conflict and being a people pleaser?
- If people hear Jesus from you but don't see Jesus in you, they get confused. How does your reaction to conflict reflect Jesus to others?

4. Am I Able to Be Kind? Ephesians 4:15

- Why is it important to speak the truth in love? Why is it not enough to be right?
- What are some helpful strategies for speaking truth in love?

5. Do I Trust God with the Outcome? Romans 12:19-21

- Why is it difficult to leave justice in God's hands?
- How does trusting God change the way we handle conflict?
- What does it look like to "conquer evil by doing good" in a real-life situation?

6. What Do I Need to Do to Forgive and Move On? Colossians 3:13

- How do you differentiate between forgiveness and ignoring justice? Does understanding forgiveness as 'releasing bitterness' change your perspective?
- Have you ever experienced freedom through forgiveness? Share your story if comfortable.
- What steps can you take this week to move toward forgiveness in a current or past conflict?