



USE THESE QUESTIONS AND RESOURCES TO HELP YOU PROCESS THE MESSAGE DURING YOUR STUDY TIME OR WITH YOUR GROUP.

Message Recap: Conflict is inevitable and essential to maintaining healthy relationships - but it can be awkward. For many, the desire to avoid conflict outweighs the benefits of stepping into it. But what if conflict were the pathway to peace? Even though it might be messy, it's critical to remember that sometimes we must fight it out.

» Main Points

- Focus on the Real Issue
- Don't Overreact
- Propose a Solution

» Getting Started

- How do you typically approach conflict?

» Observation

- Read and reflect on [Genesis 37:3-28; 42:1-38; 45:1-8; 50:15-21](#); [James 1:19-20](#); [Proverbs 15:1](#); [Colossians 3:12-15](#)
- What are your initial reactions to these passages? What do you find challenging? Are you encouraged by any of these verses?

reachout

- Conflict can be tricky in relationships, especially when building trust with neighbors, co-workers, and friends. Is there a conflict in any relationships you need to resolve this week?

growdeep

- What are some lessons you have learned from moments of conflict?
- Describe a situation where unresolved conflict impacted a relationship. What steps did you take to address it? What would you do differently now?
- Review Joseph's story in Genesis. What were some of the contributing factors that led to them selling Joseph? What could they have done differently to diffuse the conflict?
- Reread Colossians 3:12-15. Paul gives a list of characteristics followers of Jesus are to have. Which attributes are the most difficult for you to live out regularly? How do you see that play out in the way you handle or avoid conflict?

partner with families

- Conflict is common in family dynamics. Avoiding conflict never works in the long run. What do you need to do to lead your family toward dealing with conflict in a healthy way? Do you need to start with yourself? Take a step in building healthy conflict habits with your family this week.

» Next Steps and Prayer

- Which of the three steps for navigating conflict will take the most practice? Commit to engaging in this step as you manage conflicts this week.
 - Focus on the Real Issue
 - Don't Overreact
 - Propose a solution
- Close by praying that God will help recognize your relational conflicts as the path toward peace instead of an obstacle.