

# fair fight

HOW TO  
RESOLVE  
CONFLICT

## Small Group Discussion Questions

### Steps to Resolving Conflict – No. 1 God Is the Great Healer

January 12, 2025

#### Theme: How do we deal with other believers in the church when they wrong us?

Conflict is an inevitable part of life. Whether in families, friendships, workplaces, or the church, disagreements and misunderstandings arise because we are imperfect people living in a broken world. Yet, as followers of Christ, we are called to handle conflict differently—reflecting His grace, truth, and love.

Matthew 18:15-20 gives us a clear framework for addressing conflict biblically. Jesus outlines practical steps to seek restoration, emphasizing humility, accountability, and a commitment to unity. This passage reminds us that the goal of conflict resolution isn't to "win" an argument but to restore relationships and glorify God in the process.

In today's discussion, we'll explore what this process looks like in real life. Through honest reflection, Scripture engagement, and practical application, we hope to better equip ourselves to approach conflict in a way that fosters healing and reconciliation, rather than division.

#### Gathering Together (Icebreaker - choose one)

Reflect on a time when you experienced a conflict with someone close to you. What happened? Did you address it directly, or avoid it? Why?

Think of a time when someone approached you to resolve a disagreement. How did their approach make you feel, and what impact did it have on the outcome?

#### Deep Dive into Scripture

Read Matthew 18:15-20 together

Have someone read Matthew 18:15-20 aloud. Encourage everyone to listen for key truths about God, His actions, and how we should respond.

##### 1. Who is God?

- What does this passage reveal about God's character, particularly His desire for reconciliation?
- How do justice and mercy play a role in the process Jesus describes?

##### 2. What has God done?

- How has God provided a framework for resolving conflict within the church community?
- What significance does Jesus' promise of His presence (verse 20) have in this process?

##### 3. Who are we?

- As followers of Christ, how does this teaching shape our identity as agents of reconciliation?
- How does our response to conflict reflect our understanding of grace and truth?

##### 4. What should we do?

- Practically, how can we follow the steps Jesus outlines to address conflict with love and humility?
- How do we balance accountability with extending grace and forgiveness?

## Personal Application Questions

1. Reflect on a recent conflict you've experienced. Did your response align with the steps Jesus outlines in Matthew 18:15-20? If not, what could you have done differently?
2. Of the conflict response styles mentioned in the sermon (passive, evasive, defensive, and aggressive), which one do you most often use? How can you grow toward a more Christ-centered approach to conflict resolution?

## Closing Prayer and Reflection

### Reflection Prompt:

Take a moment to think about a current or past conflict in your life. What steps can you take, based on today's discussion, to move toward resolution and restoration in a biblical way?

### Prayer:

"Lord, we are grateful for Your guidance on resolving conflict in a way that honors You. Help us to approach difficult conversations with humility, courage, and love. May our actions bring restoration and unity, reflecting Your grace and forgiveness. In Jesus' name, Amen."

## Additional Resources

Consider taking the "Conflict Style Assessment" from the sermon to better understand your natural tendencies and areas for growth.

Reflect on related Scriptures like Romans 12:18 and Matthew 5:23-24 to deepen your understanding of living at peace with others.