



# LEADERSHIP SKILLS FOR SMALL GROUP LEADERS

## CONFLICT RESOLUTION PART 1

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

CONTACT INFO: \_\_\_\_\_

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**LEADERSHIP SKILLS FOR SMALL GROUP LEADERS  
CONFLICT RESOLUTION PART 1**

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# CONFLICT RESOLUTION

In this session, trainees will learn a practical approach to resolving conflicts based on Biblical principles that they can apply in their respective Dgroup contexts.

## LEARNING OBJECTIVES

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By the end of this session, you will have:

1. Discovered what conflict is and its relationship with spiritual maturity.
2. Compared the right perspective and the wrong ways to deal with conflict.
3. Committed to help resolve conflict both as a privilege and responsibility of a Dgroup member and leader.

## GROUP DISCUSSION

In groups of 3-4, answer the following questions:

1. What was the worst conflict you have faced?
2. How did you respond and how was it resolved?

# EXAMINE

The true mark of spiritual maturity is **Christ-likeness** - to be just like Jesus. Many believers think that spiritual maturity is measured by what one can do for God, when in fact, it is really about what *God can do in and through the life of a believer.*

- **The Myth of Knowledge / Wisdom**
- **The Myth of Service**
- **The Myth of Zeal**
- **The Myth of Success**
- **The Myth of Spiritual Gifts**

"The biggest stumbling block of discipleship is broken relationship."

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To be spiritually mature (Christlike) means to be controlled by the Holy Spirit (Ephesians 5:18). And spiritual maturity is often tested in committed relationships.

### **Ephesians 5 & 6:**

**5:21** Be subject to one another

**5:22** Wives, be subject to your own husbands

**5:25** Husbands, love your wives

**6:1** Children, obey your parents in the Lord

**6:5** Servants, obey your masters

**6:9** Masters, do not threaten

If spiritual maturity is tested in committed relationships, and relationships get broken, how do we restore broken relationships?

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## PERSPECTIVE ON CONFLICT

1. Conflict is \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Conflict is \_\_\_\_\_ in all relationships.
3. Conflict is common even in \_\_\_\_\_.
4. Conflict is a \_\_\_\_\_ when handled properly.

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## **A conflict resolved properly results in growth.**

**Examine what happened to the early church.**

### **Church in Jerusalem**

<sup>1</sup> Now at this time while the disciples were increasing in number, a complaint arose on the part of the Hellenistic Jews against the native Hebrews, because their widows were being overlooked in the daily serving of food.

<sup>7</sup> The word of God kept on spreading; and the number of the disciples continued to increase greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests were becoming obedient to the faith.

**Acts 6:1,7 (NASB)**

### **Church in Corinth**

<sup>10</sup> Now I exhort you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you all agree and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be made complete in the same mind and in the same judgment. <sup>11</sup> For I have been informed concerning you, my brethren, by Chloe's people, that there are quarrels among you. <sup>12</sup> Now I mean this, that each one of you is saying, "I am of Paul," and "I of Apollos," and "I of Cephas," and "I of Christ."

**1 Corinthians 1:10-12**



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## The reason why conflict arises among Christians...

for you are still fleshly. For since there is jealousy and strife among you, are you not fleshly, and are you not walking like mere men?

**1 Corinthians 3:3**

## Jesus prayed for all believers to be \_\_\_\_\_.

<sup>19</sup> For their sakes I sanctify Myself, that they themselves also may be sanctified in truth.

<sup>20</sup> "I do not ask on behalf of these alone, but for those also who believe in Me through their word; <sup>21</sup> that they may all be one; even as You, Father, are in Me and I in You, that they also may be in Us, so that the world may believe that You sent Me.

**John 17:19-21**

## Jesus commanded that believers \_\_\_\_\_ one another.

<sup>34</sup> A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another, even as I have loved you, that you also love one another. <sup>35</sup> By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another."

**John 13:34-35**

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## MAJOR CAUSES OF CONFLICT

- Money
- Gossip
- Poor \_\_\_\_\_
- Expectations
- Differences
- Carnality, selfishness, pride
- THE \_\_\_\_\_ (1 Peter 5:8)

<sup>19</sup> Now the deeds of the flesh are evident, which are: immorality, impurity, sensuality, <sup>20</sup> idolatry, sorcery, enmities, **strife**, jealousy, outbursts of anger, **disputes**, **dissensions**, **factions**, <sup>21</sup> envying, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these, of which I forewarn you, just as I have forewarned you, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

**Galatians 5:19-21**

**Believers are commanded to \_\_\_\_\_ peace.**

**Bitterness which becomes contagious results from unresolved conflict.**

<sup>14</sup> **Pursue peace** with all men, and the sanctification without which no one will see the Lord. <sup>15</sup> See to it that no one comes short of the grace of God; that no root of bitterness springing up causes trouble, and by it many be defiled;

**Hebrews 12:14-15**

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## WRONG WAYS TO DEAL WITH CONFLICT

- Ignore
- Passive
- Withdraw
- Leave and \_\_\_\_\_
- Gossip, slander
- Fight
- Lawsuits

## HELPING RESOLVE CONFLICT

### 1. Great Privilege

"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.

**Matthew 5:9**

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## 2. Great Responsibility

Therefore I, the prisoner of the Lord, implore you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling with which you have been called, <sup>2</sup> with all humility and gentleness, with patience, showing tolerance for one another in love, <sup>3</sup> being diligent to preserve the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

**Ephesians 4:1-3**

There is one body and one Spirit, just as also you were called in one hope of your calling; <sup>5</sup> one Lord, one faith, one baptism, <sup>6</sup> one God and Father of all who is over all and through all and in all.

**Ephesians 4:4-6**

What does **Philippians 4:2-3** teach believers to do when conflict arises?

## GROUP DISCUSSION

In groups of 3-4, share your thoughts on the following:

1. After the session on conflict resolution, how do you now define/ view conflict?
2. What one lesson can you readily apply and how will you do it?
3. How will you apply the principles you learned about conflict-resolution as a Dgroup Member? As a Dgroup Leader?

## **FOR PERSONAL REFLECTION:**

In your journal write down a personal conflict that you've had or are currently facing. Identify the causes of that conflict. See how you can apply the principles you learned in this session.

Spend time with God and ask Him to help you deal with this conflict. End with repentance and a resolve to be reconciled with the person who had/have conflict with.