



SMALL GROUP TIPS AND TRICKS

TIPS FOR RESOLVING CONFLICT

While dealing with conflict is difficult to do at times, When handled properly, conflict can build intimacy within your group. Matthew 18 should serves as your guide for conflict resolution within your group.

Step One: One-on-One Meeting to Seek Reconciliation

(Matt 18:15)

If you have conflict with someone, go to him or her one-on-one to seek reconciliation. If someone in your group comes to you to talk about a conflict they have with someone else in the group, your first question should be "Have you talked to them about it?" If they say no, don't even listen to the issue before they go and attempt to make it right. If they have talked to them then you can move to step two.

Step Two: Mediator is Included

(Matt 18:16)

Someone should be included if the problem is not resolved in a one-on-one meeting (or several one-on-one meetings). You, the leader, should serve as mediator for unresolved conflict for your group members. If you, the leader, are involved in the conflict, then the mediator should be a qualified staff member from your church.

Step Three: Offense is Made Public

(Matt 18:17)

In the rare case that the problem cannot be resolved with outside mediation, the offense should be brought out into public. This can be a discussion among the group as a whole. This should be considered as a last resort to restore the relationship, and this step should NEVER be taken without first gaining consent from a pastor at your church.