

FOR REFLECTION AND DISCUSSION:

(From Resolving Everyday Conflict Participant Guide)

1. Why do some people believe ignoring a problem long enough will make it go away? What usually happens instead?
2. What generally happens to a problem when you run away from it? Why do the problems from which we try to escape tend to keep resurfacing?
3. What is it about taking responsibility for a problem that can be so difficult for many people? What's at stake for them? Why does this discomfort compel some people to shift blame to others when conflict surfaces?
4. Identify some intimidation tactics that you've either witnessed or experienced that were used to obtain unchallenged compliance.
5. What is your conflict style? Are you more of an avoider or an attacker? Explain—give some examples, if you're willing!
6. The Four G's...
 - What is it that God wants in regard to our relationships - not only with Him, but also with others?
 - Why do you think most people have "blind spots" when it comes to their own culpability (responsibility/part)?
 - What usually happens when people feel "backed into a corner" when confronted?
 - What is the correlation between "resolution" and "relationship"? Can you have one without the other? Explain.
7. Consider the following situations in light of the three conditions about overlooking offense.
 - Neighbour blows grass clippings onto your driveway
 - Spouse sighs trying to get by you
 - Stranger leaves shopping trolley/cart in front of your car
 - Group of teens is bullying an elementary/primary student
 - A passenger in your car keeps giving you driving tips
 - A extroverted co-worker talks continuously
 - A fellow church parishioner takes change from the offering plate
8. When it comes to people's idiosyncrasies, what "debts" (that they create) are you willing to simply absorb?
9. When does it become unhealthy to do this?
10. What is the difference between healthy "overlooking" and "peace at any price"?

PRAYER:

PEACE WITH SELF • PEACE WITH OTHERS • PEACE WITH MA

CHOOSE YOUR BATTLE

JAMES 3:18

We are our own worst enemy in a conflict. Our brains, created and yet fallen, push us into patterns that can fail us long-term. Brain science confirms what Jesus taught 2000 years ago, that when we are in a conflict our brain operates differently. This does not mean that we cannot learn to pre-emptively shape those responses. We look at those responses this Sunday, and begin training our patterns in healthy directions—fight, flight, or...

REVIEW OF LAST SUNDAY

- **SPARKS:** diversity, misunderstandings, selfish attitudes
- **GAS:** "cravings" or desires being challenged or denied
- **FIRE:** conflict, arguing, complaining, anger, bitterness
- **GOD'S BETTER WAY:**

THERE ARE TWO BASIC "INSTINCTUAL" RESPONSES

- Escape Responses: **Peace-Faking**/"Running"
- Attack Responses: **Peace-Breaking**/"Winning"

Peace-Making Responses: Four G's

- Glorify God, 1 Corinthians 10:31
- Get the Log Out of Your eye, Matthew 7:5
- Gently Restore, Galatians 6:1
- Go and Be Reconciled, Matthew 5:24

WHEN TO OVERLOOK

The offense should not _____.

The offense should not _____.

The offense _____.

TAKE OUT

