

Conflict – 4/11/21

OVERVIEW

It's impossible to have significant relationships with people without any conflicts. But Jesus gave us the new commandment to love one another, so that others will know we are His disciples. He invites us to right wrongs by going to our brothers and sisters and sharing our hurt. Is there a relationship or a situation that God is asking you to make right?

Scriptures (ESV): John 13:34-35; Matthew 18:15-17

APPLICATION

- We learn a lot about how to handle conflict from our upbringing. Maybe it was avoidance, yelling, stubbornness, quick apologies, etc. How were you taught to handle conflict?
- Sometimes our taught response or our natural response to conflict is different than what Jesus tells us. In Matthew 18:15-17, Jesus clearly outlines an avenue for handling conflict:
 - **GO AND TELL.** What keeps you from going (with a humble spirit) and telling someone that they have wronged you the way Jesus prescribes in Matthew 18:15?
 - **TAKE ONE OR TWO OTHERS.** Verse 16 says if they don't listen, then bring one or two others with you and discuss the situation. Is there someone God is laying on your heart with whom you need to start the restoration process?
 - **TAKE IT TO THE CHURCH.** This is our last resort. Why do you think Jesus says in Matthew 18:17 to "let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector"? What does He mean?
- This week, what steps do you need to take to right a wrong?