

MIXER

1. Briefly describe a time when you experienced conflict and explain the result.

QUICK REVIEW

2. As you consider this week's worship gathering, was there anything you heard for the first time or that caught your attention, challenged, or confused you? It could have been through a song, the sermon, another person, or an experience.

MY STORY

3. Sometimes feeling offended leads to conflict. However, there are times when we should not be offended. From a Biblical point of view, how do we refrain from being offended? Consider the following verses:
 - James 4:1-2
 - Romans 12:3
 - Proverbs 19:11
4. Describe a time when you took offense at something unnecessarily. What was the outcome and would you change the way you responded?

DIGGING DEEPER

5. Read Luke 12:49-53 and John 15:18-20. Real allegiance to Christ will create conflicts. Give an example of a current conflict between Biblical and secular worldviews and how Christians should handle the conflict.
6. Read Matthew 6:9-15. In verses 14-15, what does Jesus emphasize? What are the consequences of unforgiveness? Is Jesus asking you to forgive even if an offender never asks for it? Explain.
7. The sermon speaker Dave Wilson quoted Matthew 5:23-24 and gave us steps to reconcile with someone whom you have offended (see sermon outline). What step(s) are hardest for you?
8. According to 1 Peter 3:8-9, if you are confronted, how should you respond?

TAKING IT HOME (APPLICATION)

Break into gender groups and discuss the following:

9. What is difficult for you about extending forgiveness toward others at times? Why is it sometimes hard for you to ask for forgiveness?
10. Is there someone you need to forgive, or someone that you need to ask for forgiveness?

RECONCILE STEPS:

Matt 7:3-5

1. You _____
2. You Go _____
3. You Go _____
4. You Go to _____
5. You _____ Go

2 WAYS TO LIVE:

1. _____ Back 1 Pet 3:9a
2. _____ Back 1 Pet 3:9b

OFFENSE IS AN _____
OFFENDED IS A _____

Truth:

Eph 4:31-32