



Serve, Support, Strengthen

Bible Study Topic: Christians and Conflict

- Welcome everyone – 1 min
- Suggest feedback on answered prayer – 5 - 10min
- Time of Bible study – 40 minutes

Introduction:

Conflict is an inevitable part of the Christian life—whether it's conflict with the world, with one another, or the deeper hostility between mankind and God due to sin. This study dives into the root causes of Christian conflict and explores biblical principles for peace, reconciliation, and resolution, as outlined in Ephesians and other scriptures. Even though we are all sinners saved by grace, believers have been given a mandate for pursuing peace.

Questions to ask the group

1. Why are Christians in conflict with the world?
2. Why are Christians in conflict with one another?
3. There is a war of hostility of God the father and mankind, why do you think this is?
4. Ephesians is a great book dealing with all kinds of conflicts we encounter.
Read Ephesians 2:11-22.
What does this passage tell us about peace between two parties?
5. How do you remove hostility? (*Answer: remove self-justification, being right, pride, etc*)
6. We can have peace through submission, why do you think this is so?
7. How do we resolve conflict? (*Answer: Saying sorry, being sorry even if right.... How do we reconcile even if we think we are right?*) Read Ephesians 4:1-3 after people have suggested answers
8. Read 1 Peter 2:4-10. What do you do if you are rejected by the world and what warning is it if you are NOT being rejected by the world?
9. In 1 Peter 2, how are we Christians described? What does it mean to be a priest? (*set apart as holy*)
10. What does it mean to be a royal priest? (*We have a kingly reign with Jesus, including the responsibility in how we act*)
11. Sin falls under 3 categories, **lust of the eyes, lust of the flesh and pride of life**, list all the ten commandment sins and categorise into the 'do's' and 'do not's'.



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12. Hostility leads to the demonic influence being released, what is meant by this? (oppression, demonic oppression, harassed)
13. Read 1 Samuel 18:8-10. What opened the door for Saul to become demonically oppressed?
14. A critical judging spirit will kill fruit in your life..... Read 2 Samuel 6:14, why did Michal not get blessed with a child?
15. **Practical application:** Read James 3:13-13. Search your heart for any jealousy and selfish ambition, take a moment to ask the Spirit to reveal to you, and repent of it.
16. **Closing Prayer:** Ask if there are any prayer needs from the group that they would like to share. Reminder to keep information confidential and light, be aware that sensitive information shared might make the person regret that they shared if the group is too big, or doesn't trust each other fully yet. Pray for wisdom regarding conflict, for eyes to be opened, and holds to be broken over conflict in our lives.

Conclusion:

Resolving conflict, whether with the world or within the body of Christ, requires humility, grace, and a heart willing to submit to God's will. Through the Holy Spirit, we have peace through reconciliation, repentance, and submission, the chains of hostility are broken, and we can walk in unity. As we reflect on our own hearts and invite the Holy Spirit to reveal areas of conflict, we are empowered to seek God's wisdom, heal broken relationships, and live in the peace that surpasses all understanding. Through prayer and continual submission to Christ, we can overcome the conflicts we face and embody His love and unity.