Discussion Questions

- 1. If there is a particular relationship that is constantly in conflict, what does Scripture say is usually the main culprit?
- 2. Did you grow up required to "ask for forgiveness," or was a simple "sorry" good enough?
 - a. Do you think there is a big difference between the two?
- 3. Are you aware of any ongoing conflicts in your life that you've been slow to resolve?
 - a. What do you think has been keeping you from resolving it?
- 4. Do you ever have a hard time extending forgiveness, especially with issues that repeatedly come up? If so, what Biblical principle do you need to dwell on to push through those feelings? (Matthew 18:21–35)
- 5. Thinking about our conflicts as something "God ordained" can be very challenging at times. What passages greatly encourage you to see "God's Hand" in their midst?
- 6. Can you think of the last conflict you were involved with?
 - a. Based on what you learned this morning, how should you have handled it differently?

Conflict Resolution - "I said I'm sorry!"

Elder Zach Volker - June 29th, 2025

Why do we have conflict?

• James 4:1-3

So how can we deal with conflict in a way that honors God?

- Acknowledge that "He is in the middle of it"

 James 1:2-4
- Ask, "How can I honor God in in my response"
 - 1 Corinthians 10:13
 - Ephesians 4:25–27
- Ask, "How can I love this individual that I'm in conflict with?
 - Colossians 3:12–17 Ephesians 4:31–32

What happens when we respond sinfully to conflict?

- A barrier is created between you and the one you sinned against
- It must be dealt with to please God!
 - Romans 12:16-18

How do we resolve conflict?

- The goal is not for you to just stop feeling bad about what you've done!
 - Matthew 27:3-5
 - 2 Corinthians 2:4
- Feeling bad isn't enough to right the wrong!
 - Hebrews 12:11
 - 2 Corinthians 7:9–10

Repentance

- What is it?
- Isn't this what Jesus asks of us?
 - Romans 6:23
 - Luke 24:45-47

Take Aways

- 1. We often see conflicts as obstacles in our way, but God sees them as the destination!
- 2. It's an opportunity to die to self
- 3. It's an opportunity to grow in our love for others
- 4. It's an opportunity to glorify God by how we handle these issues
- 5. If you know of anyone that is in conflict with you, go after them!

Forgiveness

- God calls all of us to forgive, just like He will always forgive us
 - Matthew 18:21-35
- What if you don't feel like forgiving?
 - 1 Peter 3:8-9