



RELATIONSHIPS: Life on the Other Side of you - Conflict



BIG IDEA

In relationships, difficult always precedes deep.



ICE BREAKER

What's the strangest thing that you and a family member or friend have ever disagreed on?



MAIN POINTS

- Conflict is inevitable in relationships.
- What we do (or don't do) with conflict ultimately defines the relationship.
- Unresolved conflict tends to escalate, not disappear.
- The Bible is honest about family conflicts (e.g., Jacob and Esau).
- Relationships require work and maintenance.
- Conflict is an opportunity to take relationships deeper.
- We need to be willing to "go into the danger" to resolve conflicts.



DISCUSS

1. The sermon states, "Conflict is inevitable in relationships." Can you share an experience where a conflict actually strengthened a relationship?
2. How has social media changed the way people handle conflicts? What are the potential dangers of airing grievances online?
3. Pastor Cal mentions that "the world treats people like paper plates... God treats people as fine china." What does this mean to you, and how might it affect how we handle conflicts?
4. Jesus advises to "settle matters quickly with your adversary" (Matthew 5:25-26). Why do you think quick resolution is important? What are the risks of letting conflicts linger?
5. The sermon discusses the increasing trend of family estrangement. What factors do you think contribute to this "slash and burn" mentality in family relationships?
6. Pastor Cal shares his personal story of conflict with his mother. What lessons can we draw from his experience about long-term family conflicts and reconciliation?
7. What does it mean to "go into the danger" or "smell the breath of the dragon" in relationships? Have you ever had to do this? What was the result?
8. Pastor Cal suggests that our lifestyles are leading to less depth in relationships. Do you agree? What can we do to cultivate deeper relationships in our fast-paced world?
9. How does the story of Jacob and Esau's reconciliation inspire you in dealing with your own family conflicts?



NEXT STEP

What practical steps can you take this week to address a conflict in your life or deepen a relationship that has become superficial?



SCRIPTURE

Romans 12:18 If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone.

1 Corinthians 1:10 I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree with one another in what you say and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be perfectly united in mind and thought.



NEXT WEEK

SNEAK

PEAK

Join us next week as we continue this series on relationships called RELATIONSHIPS: Life on the Other Side of You. Come join us and bring a friend!

Questions or Feedback? Email Groups@CentralAZ.com