

# GROUP DISCUSSION

Questions for facilitating dynamic discussion

## People Skills

### Week 3: Making Peace

#### Luke 17:3

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Life is a people-centered journey. If we're going to thrive at work, school, or home, we need to grow in how we relate to others. As we learn from the ultimate expert on relationships of all kinds—Jesus Himself—we gain useful relational tools. Particularly in a world where conflict is unavoidable, we need a tool to break down walls of hostility.

#### Kicking It Off:

What band, living or dead, would you want to play at your funeral/funeral luncheon?

#### Discussion:

1. Read Luke 17:3. If you recall, Jeff demonstrated how this verse lays out the process of reconciliation. What three steps are named? Define “rebuke.”
2. Now read 2 Samuel 12:1-7 & 13 (skip verses 8-12). First, from what you recall, what was David's sin [*that story shows up in 2 Samuel 11*]? What clever method does Nathan use to confront the sin? Who issues the initial rebuke [*answer: David*]? What effect does this have on his response to being confronted with his sin?
3. Think of a time when you confronted someone over an offense and it went well. What approach did you take? What did that do for your relationship?
4. The second step listed in Luke 17:3 is to repent. Jeff talked about the importance as one repenting in naming what you did and how it was wrong. What does this do for the one offended and for the relationship? How is asking for forgiveness different from saying you're sorry?
5. Finally, we are called to forgive. Would you say that you find forgiving others easy or difficult or a mixture of both? When is it most difficult? Just after teaching his disciples the Lord's Prayer, Jesus describes the urgency of forgiveness (Matthew 6:14-15). How might this motivate you to make forgiving others a priority?  
*For if you forgive other people when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive others their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins.* (Matt. 6:14-15, NIV)
6. Is there a “wall of hostility” in any of your relationships? What can you do this week to begin making peace there?

#### Wrapping Up:

Restoring broken relationships is hard work. Pray for your group members to have courage and effectiveness in being makers of peace.

*“For he himself is our peace, who has made the two groups one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility.” (Ephesians 2:14, NIV)*