

LESSON 3: FORGIVENESS

Look Back:

- What are you thankful for? What is causing you stress?
- Was this a good or bad week in obeying God? Why?

Look up: Forgive

- Read John 17:13-23. What does Jesus pray for us?
- Satan is the accuser. He points out people's sin. Rev. 12:10. If unity is Jesus' goal for us, what is the enemy's goal? Galatians 5:13-15.
- What disarms the enemy? Matt. 5:23-24, 6:13-14
- How do people usually deal with conflict?
- How have you dealt with conflicts in the church where people have hurt or disappointed you?

How do we deal with conflict in a godly way? Matt. 18:15-35

4 Steps from *Resolving Everyday Conflict* by Ken Sande & Kevin Johnson

1. **Glorify God.** Ask "How can I please the Lord in this situation?"
2. **Get the Log Out of Your Own Eye.** First, acknowledge your contribution to the conflict and what you did wrong (Matthew 7:5).
3. **Gently Restore.** Approach the other person humbly, privately and gently to help them see what they did wrong. Do not go in anger to condemn or to hurt them back (Matthew 18:15-18, Galatians 6:1).
4. **Go and Be Reconciled.** Give forgiveness, work on rebuilding the relationship and solving the problems together (Matt. 18:21-35).

Look Forward – Set goals & pray for goals.

- What are you doing well? What do you need to change?
- Set Goal: Will you make the **3rd discipleship commitment** to work through conflicts and forgive when others in the discipleship group hurt or disappoint you?
- **RESOURCE FOR GOING DEEPER:** Read **Resolving Everyday Conflict** by Ken Sande and Kevin Johnson