

Finger Pointing

The Myth: This Problem Is Not My Fault

September 24, 2017

Community Group Discussion Questions

PLEASE READ BEFORE LEADING DISCUSSION

- Recommended questions are highlighted in bold, but select 5 or 6 questions you think will work best for your group and discussion. You likely won't have time to discuss all of the questions so choose which questions you will ask ahead of time and make sure to provide plenty of time to focus on the application questions.
- Feel free to edit or reword questions to best fit your group.
- You may want to print out copies of this document for everyone so they can follow along with the questions as you read them.
- Check out this Facilitation Guide (<http://bit.ly/CGFacilitationGuide>) for tips on leading good discussions.

ICEBREAKER (5-10 Minutes)

1. Share your name and answer the following icebreaker:
 - What was your first job where you earned a paycheck? How did you get that job and how long did it last?

OPENING THE DISCUSSION (5-10 Minutes)

2. Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything you heard for the first time, or something that caught your attention, challenged or confused you?
3. When was a time you blamed someone else instead of yourself?

DIGGING DEEPER (10 Minutes)

4. Read Genesis 3:8-13.
 - What do you find interesting or challenging from this part of Adam and Eve's story?
5. Read Ephesians 4:32.
 - What implications does this verse have for how we can resolve conflict?
6. Drew said that **"Pointing your finger doesn't resolve tension; it creates tension."**
 - How have you seen that principle play out in your own life?
7. Drew shared that "Restoring the relationship has to be more important than being right."
 - Why is this so difficult for us?
 - When do you think is the RIGHT time to help the other person identify growth steps without blaming or accusing them?

APPLYING IT (10-20 Minutes)

8. Who is someone you need to initiate restoration with even if you didn't initiate the conflict?
9. Drew shared a few ways you can "look at yourself first" when facing conflict:
 1. Can't call out the other person's faults.
 2. Don't talk about heavy topics after 10pm.
 3. Don't use exaggerating words (always, never).
 - What is one thing from this message you can do this week to better handle conflict?
10. Share 1 step you want to take this 9-week trimester to grow in your faith (See next page).

GROWTH GOALS:

- **Write down on a 3x5 card 1 next step you want to take to grow in your faith this Community Group trimester.**
- **Share your goal with the others in your prayer group.**
- **Make sure to follow up with each other in the coming weeks to see how you are doing with your goal.**
- **Here are some Growth Goal ideas:**
 - Read a chapter of the Bible every day.
 - Commit to attend Community Group every week.
 - Begin a volunteer role at Northridge.
 - Increase my volunteer level at Northridge.
 - Memorize (___number of) verses from the Bible.
 - Attend the Starting Point group on Sunday's at Northridge.
 - Get baptized.
 - Become a Northridge Church member.
 - Invite "insert name" to church.
 - Starting giving financially to church.
 - Increase the percentage of my income I give to church.
 - Read a good Christian book.
 - Connect with a friend weekly/daily to keep you accountable with good/bad habits.