

Growth Group Discussion Q's

April 5, 2026

- **Fun Discussion Starter:** When was the last time you danced (either alone or with a partner)? What was the occasion?

Unity & Conflict

Series Review:

- Part 1: The Goal of Unity: Relational unity is at the heart of our common union with Jesus reflected in his prayer on our behalf in John 17:20-23. In Jesus words, relational unity in the church displays the experiential reality of Jesus and his divine love in the church.
- Part 2: Navigating Conflict: Though conflict can temporarily disrupt our relational unity, navigating conflict with godly maturity and love can actually serve to strengthen our relationships when we seek to “bear with one another, forgive one another and love one another” according to Col 3:12-14.
- Part 3: Regulating our Emotions: It is vital that we understand that what we feel is our responsibility. While there may be circumstances, actions or words of another person that trigger my hard or painful emotions, they are intrinsically mine and therefore I have responsibility for them.

Part 4: Having a Hard Conversation

When to have a hard conversation

- Generally, when someone has spoken or exhibited behavior that violates personal or agreed upon standards of a healthy relationship, we have a decision to make. Do we bring this to their attention or let it go?
- What are the factors that help you decide when to speak to someone?
- Do you have a hard time bringing attention to when someone is disrupting a relationship or goals of the team?
- What makes “speaking the truth in love” a healthy and good choice?

How to have a hard conversation

Pastor Mark gave three steps in preparing in advance to “speak the truth in love”

1. Script the conversation – Be kind, clear and direct
2. Prepare for the response – Responses may range from ideal to dysfunctional
3. Set a time – make sure the conversation actually happens

Discussion:

- What parts of this plan stand out as particularly beneficial from your perspective?
- What, in your experience, is the hardest part of “speaking the truth in love?”
- How does taking the above steps ultimately lead us toward unity?

