

Here are some talking points to start using to get your group talking to each other and to start generating meaningful conversations. You want others to do most of the talking.

Start Talking. Find a conversation starter for your group. Ask a question to get your group thinking. Which part of the message was most impactful to you and why?

Start Sharing & Talking About the message. NOTE: Pastor may not cover all points in all services.

Setting/Open: Today, we in the Church are fighting the wrong battles, with the wrong weapons, in the wrong way. Time is wasted on meaningless and temporary things. There are those who look to men & institutions to replace Jesus. Those same men & institutions co-op the name of Jesus.

1. Discuss 6 tools the devil uses to disrupt the church and believers. **A. Outward persecution** - wild attacks against the church corporately & against individual believers; **Inward corruption** - the devil joins the church; **false teachers** - causing confusion with a fake gospel; **our pride** - (we take "center stage") the devil uses our own pride against us; **discouragement** - we can't be effective in ministry when we are discouraged; **division** - has been employed from the beginning of the church.
2. What makes **division** so corrupting in the church? **A.** It pits believers against believers. Pastor Ed calls division the greatest point of weakness in any relationship & in the church. **Mark 3:25** We should be dwelling together in unity. **Ps 133:1**
3. Review all the things God did for us as listed in the 1st 3 chapters of Ephesians. **A.** We are blessed, chosen, predestined, adopted, accepted, redeemed, forgiven, filled with the Holy Spirit.
4. Why is what we believe so important? **A.** Because our behaviors are rooted in our beliefs.
5. **4:1-2** As review, what are we to do with one another? **A.** Bear with one another in love & be patient/longsuffering. Point: There is unit only in the Spirit - not in the flesh.
6. **4:3 Right Purpose:** How do we keep unity? **A.** Walk with the right perspective, the right position, in humility. Always trying to be at peace with one another. **Endeavor** = exert yourself; diligently try; make every effort; strive. We don't compete with each other. Tozer: We are not competitors; we are co-workers. **Rom 12:18**
7. **4:4** The "ones." **One Body** - the Church, the family of believers with Jesus as the Head; **One Spirit** - the power of the Holy Spirit, breathing life into the Church; **One hope in our calling** - all moving together toward one goal, to see Jesus face to face. **Titus 2:11-13**
8. **4:5 One Lord** - Jesus alone our Lord/Master/King. **One faith** - the entrance to the kingdom. We don't need to add anything else to faith. **Eph 2:8-9** **One baptism** - a public confession of faith by the power of the Holy Spirit or water baptism.
9. **4:6 One God & Father of all** - **Gal 4:6-7** God is active in the world and in each of our lives.
10. What is required on our part to maintain unity? **A.** **Effort** to not be divisive. **Pro 6:16-19**
11. Calvary's Culture Statement. **#4** - We Lock Our Shields. We don't fight each other. We are united in battle against the devil. **Eph 6:12-13**

Start Praying & Start Doing. Please remember to fill out the LIFEgroup meeting assessment form after your meeting. Here is the link: <https://subsplash.com/u/-3VJ3ZF/forms/d/439cdb6e-6d23-4b0a-9aeb-05199f86a9f2>

LIFEgroups

Talk it over | week 1

discussion | study 14919

Fighting for the Right Thing

Ephesians 4:3-6

Pastor Ed Taylor