ROADBLOCKS

It's important that God's Word continues after the message. At Celebrate, we find that you will quite often talk over this week's message long after our experience is over. That's because God has impact. The Sermon Discussion Guide is designed to help you continue the conversation all week.

Conflicts

A crossroad is a moment of decision. Some decisions seem simple, yet others involving conflict can have an enormous impact in your life and in your relationships. One thing to remember when you encounter a ROADBLOCK is that **Conflict is INEVITABLE**. **Misery is OPTIONAL**.

From today's message, we will look at Three Keys to Handling Conflict:

1. STAND and LOOK.

Just like stopping to look both ways before crossing the street, we need to be still and reflect on God's will for the decisions in our life. Is your first response to react when you encounter a crossroad? When has a hasty decision lead to undesirable consequences? Share a time when stopping before responding resulted in a desirable outcome.

Jeremiah 6:16; Daniel 7:9; Hebrews 4:15

2. Ask for wisdom from GOD and GODLY OTHERS.

One of God's great titles is **Ancient of Days**. His Word is thousands of years old, yet it has proved its worth for generations. It is a resource at your fingertips. Is God's Word your first stop for direction during a conflict? How has talking to God in prayer helped you? Do you share your struggles openly with your life group? Who is someone in your life who you can turn to for Christ-centered advice? Are you at the point in your life where you could mentor someone else? *James 1:5; Ephesians 5:15; Proverbs 12:15; Proverbs 15:22*

3. Walk in (the good way) FORGIVENESS.

We will never truly understand what it means to walk in forgiveness, until we experience it for ourselves. Forgiveness is a choice. Are you choosing betterment or bitterness? How can Christ, and your love for others, help you to seek peace over payback? What did Pastor Reed mean when he asked, "Do you want to be <u>RIGHT</u>, or do you want to be <u>RICH</u>?"

Acts 15:36-39; Colossians 3:13; Psalm 139:13-14; 1 Corinthians 13:4-7

What's Next

- Identify a roadblock in your life that you need to turn over to God. Let Him examine your heart and help direct you.
- Forgiveness is not optional, but Christ is greater than any conflict. Pray for God to help you release a past hurt.
- Don't do life alone. Include God in your decisions. Keep your focus on the cross.