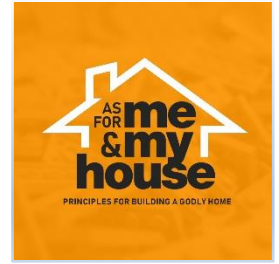


Main Street Church - Life Group Guide

Series: **AS FOR ME & MY HOUSE**

Message: **Part 6 – “Can’t We All Just Get Along”**

May 20, 2018



Connect & Pray (15min)

Opening Prayer: Invite one group member to open up in prayer for you time together.

Icebreakers:

- *What are your plans for the Summer? What are you looking forward to?
- *Discuss your Life Group's plans for finishing the spring season, the summer break, & tentative fall plans.
- *Take a Group Photo.

LET'S GROW: **GOD - shape and grow my character in 2018...**

- a. What have you been focusing on in your personal *devotions* this past week, and what is 1 way that you have been encouraged, challenged or changed?
- b. What are your *personal devotion* plans for this next week? (bible reading/prayer/journaling)
 - *How can we encourage you in this area?

Sunday Message Feedback (40min)

***Speaker:** Pastor Shawn Vandop.

1. **Message Feedback:** What is one thing that impacted you from Sunday's Message?
2. **Growing up...**what kind of silly fights did you get into with your siblings?
What would you say the Top 3 Causes of Conflict are in relationships in general? Discuss...
3. **Facing the Conflict Factor**
 - a. How do you tend to deal with conflict? Are you an avoider or a confronter or other?
 - b. How do you generally apologize? Can you recall the last time that you apologized for something?
How would you describe a proper apology? What happens if we add "if" or "but" to our apologies?
 - c. How do the following factors influence communication & conflict resolution?
:Timing : Tone : Truth (accuracy/exaggeration) : Intention/Motive
4. Read [John 17:20-21](#)
 - a. How do you understand this prayer of Jesus? Discuss.
 - b. Do you ever pray this kind of prayer?
 - c. Read [Ephesians 4:15-16](#). What does it mean to *speak the truth in love*, and how can this help build up the church, or a family?

5. JESUS understands and even assumes that we will face conflict in this world, including within our relationships. He gave some practical steps on how to deal with conflict in our homes and relationships.

Read what He said in [Matthew 18:10-35](#).

- a. What are your reactions to this teaching?
- b. What are some barriers we face in our relationships when it comes to dealing with conflict?

6. Now read [Matthew 18:15-17](#)

- a. Why do you think Jesus had to spell out a pathway for us to follow regarding conflict and reconciliation?
- b. Have you ever followed these words of Jesus in your times of conflict?
- c. How could these instructions from Jesus make your family relationships better?
- d. How could they make your relationships in general better?

7. What would happen in our families and in our churches if we committed to following these instructions of Jesus? Discuss.

Application & Prayer (15min)

7 Day Challenge (based on the 30 day challenge in *The Kindness Challenge* - by Shaunti Feldhahn)

Prayer: Think of one person you share in a relationship. It could be a family member, a co-worker, a friend, or a neighbor. Pray for courage, the wisdom and strength to take up the challenge and see to it for a full 7 days.

Next Steps: Take the 7-Day Kindness Challenge. Pick one person with whom you have a relationship.

Try this each day for 7 days:

1. Positivity - Say nothing negative about your person - either to them or about them to anyone else.
2. Praise - Each day find one positive thing you can praise or affirm about that person and tell them and tell someone else.
3. Kindness - Each day, do one small action of kindness or generosity for them.
4. Pray for them each day.

Group Prayer: Share 1 Challenge or Opportunity that you are facing this week and pray for one another.

EXPLORE – Resources to consider.

<http://www.openbible.info/topics/communication>

<http://www.openbible.info/topics/conflict>

<https://www.gotquestions.org/conflict-resolution.html>

<https://bible.org/seriespage/18-communication-skills>

<http://www.5lovelanguages.com/resources/books> - The 5 Love Languages

<https://store.lesandleslie.com/collections/frontpage/products/the-good-fight> - The Good Fight

<https://shaunti.com> - The 30 Day Kindness Challenge

Announcements

PRAYER SUMMIT

Sun. May 27. 6pm-7:30pm. Main Street Auditorium. *Worship – Prayer – Communion.*

BAPTISM SUNDAY

Sun. June 3. During the Morning Services. Info & Registration - www.mainstreetchurch.ca/baptism

PARTNERSHIP CLASS

Sun. June 3. 6pm-8pm. Chapel. www.mainstreetchurch.ca/partnership

2017 AGM (Annual General Meeting)

Wed. June 6. 7pm. Chapel. Refreshments & Childcare provided.