

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

How to Play Well with Others

The Church is the Bride of Christ, His first love... but sadly, the Church does not often present itself in a manner worthy of this role. People often see the Church battered and bruised because we've been fighting again. James gives us instructions as to how we can live in unity and, consequently, win others for the Kingdom of God.

There are Three Different Types of People:

- **Peace- FAKERS:** people who hope conflicts will go away in order to keep the peace
- **Peace- BREAKERS:** people who are always looking for conflict and want to be right
- **Peace- MAKERS:** people who make an effort to play well with others to create unity

Three Christ-like ATTITUDES- the KEYS to Being a PEACEMAKER

- **I will ACCEPT you- as God has accepted me.**
Diversity will always change us...for better or worse. Discuss how diversity has played a role in your faith journey and how it has changed you. Share something that you've avoided because it's not what you prefer, but then you realized it was God showing you what you needed.
Romans 15:7; James 3:17; Philippians 2:3-4
- **I will LOVE you- as God has loved me.**
God doesn't wear a mask with us. Who He is, is who He is...always. Discuss what it means to genuinely care about others. Share a time when you had to really spend time in prayer in order to be able to love someone the way God calls us to love. Why is it important for us to call on the Name of God in these situations?
Ephesians 5:1-2; 1 John 4:19-20; Romans 12:9-10; John 13:34-35
- **I will FORGIVE you- as God has forgiven me.**
When you really understand what Jesus did for you, you will not be able to hold that in. We are called to give to the least of these. How can God use you, specifically, to minister to the least of these? Share a situation where God called you to forgive someone you didn't even realize you needed to forgive. What made you know that this was the right thing to do?
Proverbs 17:9; Mark 11:25; Ephesians 4:31-32

What's Next

- Be intentional this week about loving someone who is hard for you to love
- Ask God directly to show you how to accept, love, and forgive others
- List the ways in which God has shown you acceptance, love and forgiveness even when you didn't feel like you deserved it.