

Relate Group Questions

November 4, 2018

Ice Breaker Question:

What characterized the way adults treated you as you were growing up? Lots of love? Contempt? Criticism? Encouragement? Fair and appropriate discipline? Cruel and unnecessary punishment?

Relate Group Value: Safety – Guarding honest, open relationships with an agreement of safety – that what is said in the group will remain confidential, that opinions will be respected and differences will be allowed.

Sermon Series: Does Your Faith Work?

Sermon Title: Who Are You To Judge Your Neighbor?

Sermon Text: James 4:11-12

Other Relevant Scriptures: James 2:8; Leviticus 19:16-18; Matthew 7:1, 15-20; 22:38-39; Romans 1:29-30; 2:1

Study Questions:

1. Has a fellow believer in Jesus ever criticized or spoken evil against you? How did that make you feel?
2. Have you ever been guilty of criticizing or speaking evil against a fellow believer in Jesus?
3. In what way does the commandment of Jesus in John 13:34-35 govern your speech and actions toward others in God's family? How can we obey this command in our relationships with each other in this group?
4. Why is sinful speech so damaging in a church? Why do you think people (ourselves included) engage in gossip, slander, harsh criticism, and other inappropriate forms of speech?
5. How can we build up rather than tear down in our speech (Ephesians 4:29; Proverbs 16:24)?
6. In what way is a judgmental Christian failing to love their neighbor as themselves (Matthew 22:38-39)?
7. When is it appropriate to judge behavior (Matthew 7:1, 15-20)? Why?
8. How does it benefit you and the church when you choose to speak kindly and lovingly about others inside and outside the church instead of being critical and judgmental?

Weekly Check-up:

How is your daily Bible reading going?

How has your prayer life been this past week?

Are you struggling in your obedience to God?

Have you shared Jesus with anyone this past week?

Have you invited anyone to worship or small group?

What do you need prayer and encouragement for today?