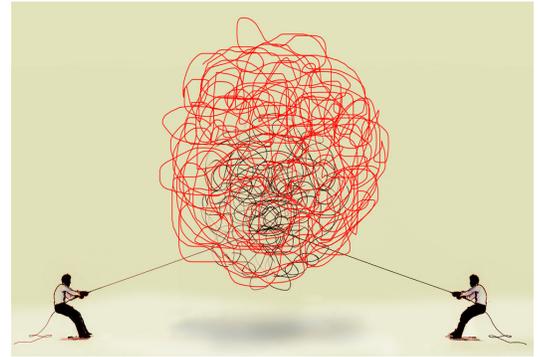


Royal Redeemer

CGS Community Discussion Guide

Based on the sermon for November 26, 2017:
When conflict arises, are you with us or them?



(For use as an opening Devotion, use only the highlighted portion)

- **Begin by sharing a high and/or a low from your week**
- **Connect**
 - Share a memory of a conflict that you were part of or witness to that now seems fun, funny, or embarrassing.
- **Grow** (read this passage aloud and listen for words or phrases that speak into your life now)

Now when Jesus saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to him, 2 and he began to teach them.

He said: 3 “Blessed are the poor in spirit,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

4 Blessed are those who mourn,
for they will be comforted.

5 Blessed are the meek,
for they will inherit the earth.

6 Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,
for they will be filled.

7 Blessed are the merciful,
for they will be shown mercy.

8 Blessed are the pure in heart,
for they will see God.

9 Blessed are the peacemakers,
for they will be called children of God.

10 Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

11 “Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. 12 Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

Matthew 5:1-12

- Share any words or phrases that speak into your life today.
 - Give an example of a time when you were a peacemaker in your family or with your friends. What sort of tactics did you use? How were you treated? How did it get resolved?
 - Often people feel like their attempts at peacemaking have put them in a uncomfortable position. How does putting verses 10 and 11 after "Blessed are the peacemakers" speak to this?
 - When we are feeling persecuted or insulted, what comfort do we have according to verse 12?
- Reflect: *Jesus came as the Prince of Peace (Isaiah 9:6) and yet he says that he did not come to bring peace, but a sword (Matthew 10:34). How can both be true?*
- **Serve**
 - Who in your life today might struggle with love for both sides in the midst of conflict? How can you be a witness of the gospel to them and be a peacemaker?

- **End with Prayer and the Lord's Prayer**