



Ordinary Faithfulness

steady Christian living in the normal pressures of life

1 - Faithfulness Starts Small

2 - Hearing God Daily

3 - Praying Anyway

4 - Killing Sin Early

5 - Staying Teachable

6 - Showing Up

7 - Resting Regularly

9 - Waiting With Hope

10 - Finishing Well

8 – Grace in Conflict

Believers bring grace into conflict because Christ has shown grace to them

EMBARK

Conflict is not unusual in a fallen world, even among believers. We misunderstand each other, irritate each other, disappoint each other, and sometimes sin against each other. The question is not whether conflict will happen, but whether we will respond in a way that reflects Christ. Scripture calls us to bring humility, patience, truth, forgiveness, and love into the ordinary tensions of life.



1. Why is it often difficult to respond with grace when conflict becomes personal?

EXAMINE

READ James 4:1-3

2. According to this passage, where do quarrels and fights come from?
3. What does James show about the connection between conflict and misplaced desires?
4. Why is it important to examine our hearts during conflict?

READ Ephesians 4:1-3

5. What qualities should mark those who walk worthy of their calling?
6. What does it mean to bear with one another in love?
7. Why does unity require both humility and effort?

READ Ephesians 4:29-32

8. How should our words be used during conflict?
9. What attitudes and behaviors must be put away?
10. What does it mean to forgive one another as God has forgiven us in Christ?

READ Colossians 3:12-15

11. What virtues are believers commanded to put on?
12. Why is love described as binding everything together?
13. How should the peace of Christ shape the way believers handle conflict?

EXPOSE

We often fail to bring grace into conflict because the heart prefers winning, self-protection, and control.

- **We focus on being right more than being Christlike**
We can win the argument while losing the opportunity to reflect Jesus.
- **We excuse harsh words because we feel justified**
Pain, frustration, or conviction can become excuses for sinful speech.
- **We assume the worst instead of moving toward love**
Conflict grows when suspicion replaces patience and charity.
- **We want forgiveness without the cost of humility**
Grace in conflict requires confession, repentance, patience, and a willingness to absorb wrongs without retaliation.

Diagnostic questions:

- What desire usually gets exposed in me during conflict?
- Am I more eager to be understood or to understand?
- Where have my words made conflict worse instead of giving grace?
- Is there anyone I need to forgive, pursue, or speak to with humility?

THIS WEEK:

Choose one concrete step

- pray honestly about one conflict or strained relationship
- ask God to expose what desire is shaping your response
- speak one gracious word where you have been tempted toward harshness
- pursue one needed conversation with humility and love
- forgive someone as God has forgiven you in Christ

ENGAGE

Discuss these matters with your table and summarize your findings to share with the group.

Step 1: Identify

What kinds of desires often sit underneath ordinary conflicts?

Step 2: Reflect

How can our words either give grace or make conflict worse?

Step 3: Apply

What is one relationship or situation where you need to respond with more humility, patience, or forgiveness?

Step 4: Encourage

How can believers help one another pursue peace without ignoring sin or avoiding hard conversations?

MEMORIZE

Ephesians 4:32 (CSB) “And be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving one another, just as God also forgave you in Christ.”

