

# RESOLVING EVERDAY CONFLICT

**Week 4: Getting Real About  
Yourself—Get The Log Out of  
Your Own Eye**

# THE SPECK AND THE LOG

## **Matt 7:1-5**

- Jesus doesn't forbid correcting others, but this isn't the first step
- Even if you are only responsible for 2% of a conflict, you're 100% responsible for your 2%.
- The deadly "All I said was..."
- The "Golden Response"
  - First admissions tend to trigger second admissions. People tend to treat you how you treat them.

# QUESTION

- **What specific elements made this a piece of successful peacemaking? What was different about not just what they said, but their attitudes?**

# GETTING TO THE HEART

- Cravings underlie conflict (Jas. 4:1-2)
- Cravings are “idols” or “mini-Gods”—things other than God that we:
  - Set our hearts on (Lk. 12:29)
  - Let rule us (Eph. 5:5)
  - Trust, fear or serve (Isa. 42:17)
- An idol is *anything* other than God that we ultimately trust and seek to make us happy or secure.

# HOW IDOLS AFFECT US

- A Desire: “I would like to have...”
- Demand/Idol: “I must have...” (Jas. 4:1-2)
- Deep Disappointment: “You did not give me my desires...”
- Judgement: Because you did not give me my desires, you are...”
- Punishment: “Because you didn’t, I will...” (Rom. 12:19)

# DISCUSS

- **What are some examples of how we train people to give us what we want by the way we respond to conflict?**

# HOW DO I IDENTIFY MY IDOLS? – X-RAY QUESTIONS

- What do you fear? What do you tend to worry about the most in life?
- What do you believe will bring you the most pleasure, happiness and fulfillment on a day in, day out basis?
- What would you consider sinning to obtain or avoid? (stretching the truth counts)
- What must you have or who must you be to feel valuable, important or significant?
- What truths would be the most difficult to accept about yourself?

# HOW DO I DEAL WITH AN IDOL?

- Confess and repent (Acts 3:19; 1 John 1:9)
- Replace idol worship with worship of God (Ps. 37:4)
  - The expulsive power of a new affection
- Understand your identity in Jesus Christ in light of the Gospel

*THIS IS FAIRLY SIMPLE, BUT EXTREMELY DIFFICULT*



# DISCUSS

- **How does the desire for control relate to idolatry? Why is understanding this important?**

# CLOSING THOUGHTS

- Start every instance of conflict resolution with a “log” hunt
  - Word and Prayer
- Assume you either 1) sinned or 2) could have done something better as your default posture
- Ask trusted advisors to help you identify your idols if you need help—sanctification is a community project.