



LIFELINE Discussion Guide

Week of January 15, 2024

1. What is the worst person-to-person conflict that you have seen in a church setting? Was it a disagreement? An argument? Was it a physical altercation of some kind? Describe your memory of the event. How did that open conflict make you feel?
2. Have two different people read Philippians 4:1-9 in two different translations. Once you have heard the two readings, answer: How would you summarize this section in your own words?
3. Why was Paul right to “call out” the two women who were having inter-personal conflict? Why is it so important that churches stand united and stand together? (see also Ephesians 4:3) What are some of the negative consequences that come from fighting churches?
4. Life brings challenges but we are called to “rejoice in the Lord always”. What is the difference between joy and happiness? Why can you rejoice even when problems and adversities are surrounding you?
5. Paul called on the Christians to exercise “gentleness” with all people. Does gentleness mean weakness? Why is it wrong for Christians to be combative (always looking for a fight)? Give some examples where Jesus showed gentleness and meekness (power under control).
6. According to verses 6-7, what is one of the best remedies for overcoming anxiety? What are we supposed to be anxious about: _____. What are we supposed to be praying about: _____. What is the amazing exchange that God does for us when we pray?
7. We live in a current secular culture that is morally dark and spiritually corrupt. Music, movies, and media are all impacted by human sinfulness. What is the spiritual “grid” given in verse 8 that can help us be discerning about what we bring into our minds to meditate on?
8. The godly Christian life isn’t only about what you learn (right beliefs)— it is also about how you live (right behaviors). Since the New Testament wasn’t yet completed, what did Paul advise the Philippian Christians to embrace and emulate (verse 9). Who is Christian you know who you can develop a friendship with, learn from, and emulate their godly habits?

Pastor Ryan said that “Churches can only go as far as their togetherness takes them.” What did he mean by this? Before your group dismisses, take time to pray for Wrightsdale’s unity, togetherness, and spiritual health. Remember that fantastic churches don’t happen by accident.