

Life Group Preparation Notes

Dennis Beeselaar – Sunday 19 September 2021

Uncomplicated: Relationships – Fighting Fair



Note for the facilitator: We are increasingly aware of how important our own preparation is as the key to being able to be vulnerable in group as well as learning from what God is saying to one another through the Word that we are reading. Let us keep encouraging one another to anchor our lives in God.

Worship: Spend time throughout the week during your time with God listening to [Touch of Heaven by Hillsong Worship](#). As you spend time in worship, take joy that we can sing these words, “all I want is to live within Your love” with faith.

Check-In: What lesson have you taken and applied to your own relationship that you may have come across in a movie/TV series?

Bible Readings: Anchor: Matthew 6:33; Deuteronomy 6:5; Galatians 5:14-15; Philippians 2:4; Psalm 119:105; Romans 12:10; Matthew 5:23-24; 1 Corinthians 13:13; Micah 6:8; Philippians 2:1-8

Preparation and Discussion for Group Time:

1. There are two approaches to any conflict - the shark (fight approach) or the teddy bear (flight approach). Do you identify with any of these approaches in your own life? What do you think could have led to you adopting this approach?
2. Sandbanks are inevitable in any relationship. What are some of the ways that you can learn or have learned before to navigate these sandbanks? How can we identify what these are and address them in a way that is healthy?
3. Tips to fight fair that Dennis mentioned include:
 1. God’s ground rules of Respect, Trust and Love
 2. Be like an owl - follow God’s wisdom
 3. Win/Win - play the game, not the person
 4. Follow the greatest of these - love

In your relationships, what steps can you take to grow in the way you handle these sandbanks/conflicts? Which of these tips do you need to be intentional about applying in your life?

Prayer time:

Take an opportunity to pray for your relationships where you may be experiencing conflict. Ask God to be with you as you take intentional steps to fight fair.

Love God:

- **Read Philippians 2:1-8** and be encouraged that we are able to love others the same way that we are loved by God.
- For personal study, here are some suggested **YouVersion** and **RightNow Media** devotionals:
 - [Navigating Conflict by Brittany Rust](#)
 - [Fighting Fair by Kirk and Chelsea Cameron](#)

Love People:

There are many opportunities to Love People coming up - see the Church Center App for more information:

- Join a team that show’s love to others with practical care and assistance: Career Care Team, Meal Care Team or Home Maintenance Team - check out the details to sign up.
- There are a number of discipleship opportunities coming up - all details on the Church Center App