

Dealing with Conflict within your Small Group

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Definition of Conflict

- A disagreement or clash between ideas, principles, or people
- A state of disharmony between incompatible or antithetical persons, ideas, or interests
- Actual or **perceived** opposition of needs, values and interests

Four Types of Conflict

- Informational conflict – Everyone does not have all the same information
- Disagreement on activities or actions – brainstorming, group problem solving involving input from everyone
- Differences regarding how things should be or how things are done – more attention required and possibly separation and/or mediation
- Dearly held ideas, or beliefs that are in opposition – requires common ground in order to get to resolution (most difficult type of conflict)

Biblical Resolution

- Mathew 18 – go to the person and address the conflict (one on one)
- If they do not listen go with another person (Sponsor)
- Don't ignore the conflict – it will not go away
- Do a motive check – are you speaking the truth in love?
- Have a Christ perspective when dealing with conflict