

Teaching Outline

Series: Famous Battlegrounds
Within the Church

We cause conflict when we _____ others.

Luke 18:9-14 (NLT) ⁹ Then Jesus told this story to some who had great confidence in their own righteousness and scorned everyone else:¹⁰ “Two men went to the Temple to pray. One was a Pharisee, and the other was a despised tax collector.”¹¹ The Pharisee stood by himself and prayed this prayer: ‘I thank you, God, that I am not a sinner like everyone else. For I don’t cheat, I don’t sin, and I don’t commit adultery. I’m certainly not like that tax collector!’¹² I fast twice a week, and I give you a tenth of my income.’¹³ “But the tax collector stood at a distance and dared not even lift his eyes to heaven as he prayed. Instead, he beat his chest in sorrow, saying, ‘O God, be merciful to me, for I am a sinner.’¹⁴ I tell you, this sinner, not the Pharisee, returned home justified before God. For those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.”

The longer we’re in church, the more likely we are the Pharisee rather than the tax collector.

When we are jealous about someone’s _____ or _____.

Num 12:1-8 (NLT) ¹ While they were at Hazeroth, Miriam and Aaron criticized Moses because he had married a Cushite woman.² They said, “Has the LORD spoken only through Moses? Hasn’t he spoken through us, too?” But the LORD heard them.³ (Now Moses was very humble—more humble than any other person on earth.)⁴ So immediately the LORD called to Moses, Aaron, and Miriam and said, “Go out to the Tabernacle, all three of you!” So the three of them went to the Tabernacle.⁵ Then the LORD descended in the pillar of cloud and stood at the entrance of the Tabernacle. “Aaron and Miriam!” he called, and they stepped forward.

⁶ And the LORD said to them, “Now listen to what I say: “If there were prophets among you, I, the LORD, would reveal myself in visions. I would speak to them in dreams.⁷ But not with my servant Moses. Of all my house, he is the one I trust.⁸ I speak to him face to face, clearly, and not in riddles! He sees the LORD as he is. So why were you not afraid to criticize my servant Moses?”

When _____ of the people do _____ of the work.

If we’re not careful, the faithful few can become the judgmental few.

NLT 1 Corinthians 12:27 Now all of you together are Christ's body, and each one of you is a separate and necessary part of it.

When we don’t _____ conflict/offense.

Unresolved conflict is the _____ people leave the church.

Matt 18:15-17 (NLT) ¹⁵ “If another believer sins against you, go privately and point out the offense. If the other person listens and confesses it, you have won that person back.¹⁶ But if you are unsuccessful, take one or two others with you and go back again, so that everything you say may be confirmed by two or three witnesses.¹⁷ If the person still refuses to listen, take your case to the church. Then if he or she won’t accept the church’s decision, treat that person as a pagan or a corrupt tax collector.

We want to be a church that dispenses _____ and _____!