



GroveGROUPS Sermon Guide

Can You Relate ~W4 “Breaking Through ‘I’m Right’” ~ Bill Clark ~ 10/2/22

OVERVIEW

Do you know someone who is ALWAYS right? Being in a relationship with that kind of person makes it very difficult to go deep with them. In these types of relationships real feelings are not expressed, true words are not spoken and admission of being wrong doesn't happen. For relationships to thrive, feelings, words and opinions don't have to be agreed upon but do need to include the common threads of love, respect and humility. It doesn't always have to be “I'm right and you're wrong.” With Jesus, there is a third option that could open lines of communication and break down another barrier keeping us from deeper connection to Jesus and others.

ICEBREAKER

Fast forward to your funeral, what do you hope people will say about you and the life you led? (Allow group members to share two or three each.) **Then ask:** Why do you think always being right was not a characteristic mentioned?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Do you know someone who always has to be right, dominates a conversation or has to have the last word? Describe what it feels like to interact with a person like that?
2. If you've been in that kind of conversation what kind of response do you typically give? Do you push back, give in, or somewhere in between?
3. READ Acts 15:36-41.
4. With the information given, do you think the disagreement between Paul and Barnabas was worth ending the relationship over? Why or why not?
5. We all have “hills we're willing to die on” or core beliefs and convictions we're willing to stand up and fight for, but are these “hills” worth walking away from relationships? Are there circumstances where walking away could or should be the case?
6. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement: *“If your belief system causes you to be mean to people, you need to reconsider your beliefs.” - Reggie Joiner*
7. If you believe you might be a person who always needs to be right, is there something you could do differently in your conversations this week to put more value on the relationship than on your opinion?

SERMON QUOTE OF THE WEEK

“There may be someone who could be a closer friend to you, but they are not because you give them limited room for their feelings, experiences and opinions.”

EXTRA CREDIT

MONDAY/TUESDAY

READ James 1:19.

James tells us to be good listeners, careful with our words and slow to get angry. Of those three characteristics which one is most difficult for you? Intentionally try to put all three traits into practice with a conversation you have today.

WEDNESDAY/THURSDAY

READ Proverbs 29:20.

Before each conversation you have today, intentionally think about the words and tone you use. Is it helpful or hurtful to others? If you were on the receiving end, would your conversations be helpful or hurtful to you?

FRIDAY/SATURDAY

READ Ephesians 4:15.

Did your words today speak truth in love or something else? How can you use your words tomorrow to love others?

NEXT STEPS

Are you someone who always needs to be right? You may be and not even realize it. The next time you're convinced that you are right, ask yourself these questions:

1. What if I'm wrong?
2. Am I right because I *want* to be right?
3. Have I asked the other person what they think?
4. Have I given the other person permission to speak freely?
5. I think I am right and they are wrong but is there a third option I am missing?
6. How can I be true to my conviction yet deepen my connection?