

CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP REFLECTIONS

DISCUSSION GUIDE

Making Peace in Your Church

https://www.cccc.org/news_blogs/john/2021/01/06/making-peace-in-your-church/

Discussion Questions

KEEP CHRIST FRONT AND CENTRE

Questions to ask are:

1. Have we spent time together discerning what the Holy Spirit has to say?
2. Is this discussion disrupting our life together based on love and unity? Are we making every effort to do what leads to peace and to mutual edification ([Rom 14:19](#))?
3. Do our discussions reflect respect for church leadership, the people who disagree with us, and the selfless character of Christ? Do not vilify the “other!”
4. What is the root cause of the division, deep down? Is it values? Priorities?
5. Which theological understandings apply to this topic?
6. Do we have any blind assumptions on this matter? Ask someone who thinks differently on the matter.
7. What effect is this having on our pastor and church leadership?

MAINTAIN YOUR ABILITY TO FULFILL YOUR MISSION

Questions to ask are:

1. Is this disagreement a distraction that is causing us to squander an opportunity to be the Church and shine?
2. Is the way we are discussing this matter consistent with what we tell the public about our church and our faith?

3. How will our proposed resolution of the disputed matter advance our mission?
 - a. Might it stifle our growth, creativity, or relevance?
 - b. Could it antagonize the very people we want to evangelize?
 - c. What opportunities are open to us at this time that weren't before?

BE A GOOD WITNESS TO JESUS CHRIST

Questions to ask are:

1. Will our behaviour in this matter help people see us as a caring, other-centred, peaceful community?
2. Based on our decision-making process, what would the secular world say is the value proposition of our church to them?
3. How can we contribute to reducing extremism? What can we do to reduce extremist positions and build a moderate centre?

GIVE THE SPIRIT ROOM

Questions to ask are:

1. Which spiritual practices (such as group discernment) have we overlooked?
2. What can we do to be more open-minded and creative? In what new ways can we do ministry? One book that is very helpful in stimulating creativity is [*A Whack on the Side of the Head*](#).
3. What are Christian leaders and theologians saying about this topic?
4. Are we aware of what God is doing in and around us?
5. Is anything happening in the secular world that we can endorse?