

Those People



Delivered

Week 1: Learning to Deal with Differences, Disagreements, and Offenses

Those people. You know the ones. The people who bring out the worst in us. They frustrate us, enrage us, trigger us. They have a knack for knowing how to get under our skin. And it's easy to slip into being offended by them. But what if there was a better way... a way that helps us move forward?

Discussion Questions

1. How would you describe your style of driving (aggressive, assertive, polite, passive, etc.)? Are you more likely to offend or be offended when driving? Why?
2. Think about some of "those people" for you. What are some of the things that drive you crazy about them?
3. How can being offended lead to building fences? How have fences affected relationships in your life?
4. Read Romans 12:17–21. What is Paul asking from us? How can what he is asking of us be difficult to do?
5. Reed mentioned, "Reconciliation takes two; forgiveness just takes you." Discuss the differences between reconciliation and forgiveness. What are factors that make it hard to forgive someone? Why should we forgive them anyway?
6. How can allowing God the space to deal with the person be freeing? Scary?
7. What is one thing you can do this week to take a step toward building a bridge?

Changing Your Mind

When we move from fence builders to bridge builders, it changes us. Our tendency to be offended diminishes. What would it take for us to be THOSE people—the ones who practice forgiveness and move toward reconciliation... the ones who demolish fences and build bridges?