

CONVERSATION STARTERS

Understanding Conflict

- ◆ What subjects are difficult to talk about?
- ◆ Are there certain subjects that seem to lead to conflict?
- ◆ When you disagree about something, what does that look like?
- ◆ How do expectations play a role in your conflict?
- ◆ When you experience conflict, what do you want that you are not getting? What are you getting that you do not want?
- ◆ How would you label the conflict you are experiencing: a misunderstanding, a disagreement, a betrayal, etc?

Gospel Implications to Address Conflict

- ◆ How has the Gospel impacted you personally? What difference does it make in your daily life?
- ◆ How should it inform the way you see your spouse? The way you interact with your spouse?
- ◆ What aspect of the gospel is most meaningful to you?
- ◆ Which of the three implications (peace, perspective and pursuit) seems most challenging? Why?

Goals for Pursuing Peace

- ◆ What would it look like to imitate God's character in your relationship with your spouse?
- ◆ How could you display sacrificial love in conflict instead of trying to win the argument?
- ◆ What is hindering unity in the marriage relationship?
- ◆ What would you be willing to do to cooperate with God's plan for unity and harmony in your marriage?

Principles to Promote Peace

- ◆ How is God calling you to live out your faith in your marriage? When are you experiencing conflict?
- ◆ What would it look like to trust Him for strength, wisdom, help, guidance?
- ◆ In what ways are you willing to allow God to change your perspective about the conflict? About your spouse?
- ◆ When you think about the conflict you are experiencing, what do you really desire? What is motivating your view of the issue?
- ◆ What do your responses (words, actions, etc) reveal about your desires and motivations? What would your spouse conclude based on your responses?
- ◆ In what ways does pride fuel conflict?
- ◆ How would an attitude of humility change the experience of conflict?
- ◆ Why is it difficult to admit our own sin and contribution to a conflict?
- ◆ How would honest admission of sin impact conflict? Why is that hard to do sometimes?
- ◆ What would you be willing to do to move towards your spouse even in the midst of conflict?