



IRRESISTIBLE FAITH

WEEK FOUR PERFORMING SOUL-SURGERY ON ONE ANOTHER

LEADER NOTES

Leader's Note- Chapter five focuses on how love sometimes pushes us to confront sin in others. We must be mindful that we are called to gentleness when doing this. Many of us value correction in our lives, but not spiritual correction. We hire coaches and mentors in other areas of our lives but often times turn away from spiritual guidance. We must be careful to not allow love to become codependent or enabling in situations that need correcting. When we are called to confront we are called to love. This might require us to stand up in humble boldness and speak hard words to someone we love. Our anger toward sin should be motivated by positive love for those caught in it. Sometimes love and anger go together. We are motivated through our anger at times. Anger is not the opposite of love, hate is. We also must learn to become people who are willing to receive this type of love from someone else.



"THE CALL TO CONFRONT IS THE CALL TO LOVE "

ICE BREAKER


Has there been a time when you had to confront sin in someone you care about?

DISCUSSION STARTER

What impacted you most from this Sunday's message?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Sauls points out that Jesus has provided us with clear instruction about what to do in cases of relational conflict in Matthew 18:15-17. Have you seen this scripture lived out in your life or church?



2. There are several stories of confrontation in the Bible including Nathan and David, Paul and Peter, and Jesus and his disciples. Do you find these stories challenging? What do we have to learn from them?

3. Sauls states that most of us don't value confrontational truth-telling. Why? What keeps us from living out this practice in our lives?

4. Sometimes we can feel hypocritical pointing out someone else's issues because we all have plenty of our own. Sauls says "So then, what qualifies you or me to steer anyone from a path of sin to a path of wholeness? It is certainly not having our acts together, for that would disqualify us all. Rather, it is in treating others as fellow sinners who are on a journey right alongside us." How can we best assume this posture in confrontational truth-telling?

5. Sauls says that encouraging words that build up and corrective words that steer away from sin are both essential. When we honor both of these, our relationship and communities become stronger. Think of an important relationship in your life. Does it have a balance between the two? If not, how can you better strive for that?

CLOSING PRAYER

God we know that we are called to love each other even when we must confront one another. Give us a spirit of gentleness. Help us to speak truth and love even in the most difficult situations. Thank you for leading and guiding us always.

READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK- CHAPTER 8 'WORK AS MISSION'