



242 Small Group Study Guide

Getting Past Your Past: Making Wrongs Right

1. What is the toughest apology you've ever given to another person? Why was this apology so difficult?

Read Matthew 5:9, Matthew 5:23-24 and Romans 12:18. These verses emphasize the importance of making peace with those you've hurt.

2. How do you typically respond to those you hurt? Are you more of a peacekeeper or a peacemaker?
3. Why do so many of us tend to be peacekeepers instead of peacemakers?
4. Whom have you hurt that you need to apologize to immediately? What has kept you from apologizing to this person?

Read Proverbs 11:2. This verse tells us that the greatest enemy to peacemaking is pride, while the greatest friend to peacemaking is humility.

5. How have you seen pride impact your ability to be a peacemaker in your relationships?

6. What does humility look like in your life? How can you develop a more humble heart?
7. Why is it so important to apologize with integrity?
8. Describe a time when you apologized to someone with integrity. How did your apology impact you and your relationship with that person?

One of God's biggest desires for us is to be peacemakers. The Bible often talks about the importance of being at peace with each other. As you work to make peace with those that you've hurt by apologizing with integrity, read the following scriptures and allow them to empower you to become a peacemaker: Romans 12:18-21, Proverbs 13:10, Proverbs 6:2-4, 1 Peter 3:11, James 3:18, Hebrews 12:14, Mark 9:50, and Matthew 5:1-48.

If there is someone you need to make peace with that you have wronged, take the next step of apologizing to them with integrity this week. As you prepare your apology, use these guidelines to apologize with integrity:

1. Admit to specific actions and attitudes.
2. Don't make excuses.
3. Accept the consequences.
4. Change your behavior.
5. Ask for forgiveness.