

Discussion Guide -- “Peace In The Family”

Week of July 8, 2018

Read 2 Samuel 2:12 – 3:1; Eph. 4:2-6; Titus 3:10-11

- There was a prolonged “civil war” among the Jews after king Saul died (2 Sam. 3:1). Unfortunately, it is not that uncommon for God’s people to “fight” each other. Have you ever been involved in a “fight” with other Christians? What kind of damage did this “fight” create in people’s lives? In the church? In the church’s testimony in the community?
- Abner may not have been without guilt in the fight, but he did give a voice of reason: if we don’t stop fighting, we will just become bitter (2 Sam. 2:26). The problem with bitterness is that it can be like a cancer in your soul. Think of a time when you were bitter at someone in the past. Are you still bitter? What impact did that bitterness have on your emotional and spiritual health?
- Do the comments in Titus 3:9-11 about people who cause division surprise you? Why does the Bible have such harsh things to say about people like that? Do you know people like that? What kind of impact do they have on others? Why is it important to avoid those people?
- In Ephesians 4:3 it says to “make every effort” to keep ourselves united in the Spirit, and to be bound together in peace. It can take a lot of effort to maintain peace and unity. Why is it so important to do this?
- Time for personal evaluation:
God wants His followers to be at peace with each other and to be agents of peace. Are you helping to keep the peace or are you contributing to division? Ask God to show you the changes you can make to help maintain peace and achieve unity.