

The Second Concern in a Conflict – Matthew 7:3-5

1. The second concern in resolving a conflict is to love others by getting real about yourself.

2. Getting real about yourself will lead you to repent and to make a sincere apology.

3. What are the seven A's of a good apology?

- Address everyone involved.
- Avoid "if" and "but".
- Admit specifically.
- Acknowledge the hurt.
- Accept the consequences.
- Address your behavior.
- Ask for forgiveness.

Questions for Discussion & Application

1. What was surprising, confusing, or helpful from this study of God's Word?
2. Is it ever difficult for you to see your own sinful contribution to a conflict? If so, what makes this difficult for you?
3. What can you do if you sense that someone has an offense against you but you aren't sure that you have done something wrong?
4. Why are we often tempted to make bad apologies? How have you done this?
5. Which of the seven A's is most difficult for you? Why?
6. Think back to a past conflict and your contribution to it. Consider using the seven A's to help you write out an apology.
7. What should you do if you have apologized and the other person is unwilling to forgive you?