1. **On a scale of 1 to 10, 10 being the best, how consistent are you at bringing your conflict and struggles to God?**
2. **Now, rate your consistency of actively addressing conflict between you and others, or helping others with conflict on the same scale. How close do those two numbers line up?**
3. **For you personally, how closely do you relate those two exercises/habits?**

One of the biggest, if not THE biggest sources of hypocrisy for those who follow Christ is to address and resolve the issues of others without dealing with our issues.

If we are to truly weep with those who weep, we must understand our own brokenness, so along with what our friend/family is going through, we can mourn the reality of fallen creation that produces difficult and tragic circumstances. And then, we can guide them toward the loving forgiveness, rest, and joy that only comes from God. And we would know best because that’s where we should be bringing our own issues, conflict and brokenness first.

1. **Jeff’s sermon this morning was based in James 4:1-4. Let’s turn there.** (wait for them to get there)

**Verse 1:** What are the issues or subjects that you find yourself getting the most worked-up about, both alone and to/with others?

**Verse 2:** What do desire for yourself that others have? How much do you think about it?

**Verse 3:** Is it something that you’ve asked God for and not received? Would you ask God for it?

**Verse 4:** What do you personally think it means “to be in the world but not of world?”

1. **That friend or friends you never reconciled with…so far, we’ve asked you to identify them and why you never reconciled with them. Next step – did you ever try or start the process of reconciling with them? If so, what did it look like? If not, do you wish you would have tried?**

**Each week, we’ll refresh our minds of order of reconciliation that helps us approach conflict resolution as ministers of reconciliation.**

**First,** we must remember that we are defined by our identity in Christ, and being reconciled with God.

**Second,** we need to be reconciled with others (for sins against us AND sins against them), but bring our own conflict to God beforehand.

**Third,** we may need the help those who are caught in sin - especially believers. Non-believers for the sake of repenting and turning to Christ. Believers for the sake of seeking forgiveness and taking refuge in His grace and mercy.

**Pray to conclude.**