

## Small Group Discussion Questions

Following the Weekend of May 25-26, 2024

No need to answer every question. Feel free to jump around.

### Pursuing Peace

(James 3:17)

Alan Kraft, Lead Pastor

### Group Interaction & Application

Read aloud together James 3:17.

What words, phrases, concepts, or images from these verses stand out to you as you just read them, or create a curiosity for you in some way?

What aspects of Pastor Alan's message gave you fresh insight into this passage, or helped you the most in understanding these verses and what we experience here?

If you have experienced a strained relationship due to the inability to see eye to eye with someone on a particular subject, share a little bit about this reality?

James shares that, "Peacemakers... reap a harvest of righteousness." And Matthew 5:9 states that, "Blessed are the peacemakers."

How easy or difficult is it for you to live as a peacemaker?

Even if you think of yourself as non-confrontational, how might this not be the same as being a peacemaker?

Pastor Alan shared that he has not been able to find anywhere in the New Testament where Christians are urged to stand up and fight against culture.

Do you find this surprising? And if our call is not to fight culture (but rather the spiritual realm – Eph. 6), why might that be the case?

How might peacemaking have more impact than standing up and fighting?

Pastor Alan highlighted three ways we can grow as peacemakers.

### **Trace Our Triggers** (James 4:1-3)

How curious are you to look into your own heart to discover why certain topics trigger you?

What desires (good or bad) make you vulnerable to reacting aggressively or to shutting down?

If you are currently aware of hot button issues for you, what might be causing the extra sensitivity (fear, exposure to certain voices, anger, past experience)?

### **Listen In Order to Understand** (James 1:19-20)

How easy does “being quick to listen and slow to speak” come for you?

How open are you to listening to another perspective with a willingness to change your mind?

If you are feeling a tug to be a better listener to someone in your life today, share a bit about what this could look like?

### **Earnestly Search for Common Ground**

When have you been surprised to find out you had more in common with someone or some group once you got to know them and to hear their perspective?

If you are currently feeling tension with someone or some group, what could it look like to explore looking for common ground?

Conclude by praying for one another in taking practical next steps in applying this weekend’s message and group discussion, after which pray for group needs and concerns.

**Messages are available in audio or video on our App or at [cccgreeley.org](http://cccgreeley.org).**