

Instructions

Group leaders, take some time before your gathering to look over these questions. Ask the Holy Spirit to guide you and pick 3-5 questions to discuss, which pertain to your group's unique needs and style.

For the video related questions, look up the video in RightNow Media. You can do this on a phone, tablet, computer, or SmartTV device. You can easily find the video by clicking on the "Revolution Church" channel within the app. If you or a group member needs access to RightNow Media, please email info@revolutionky.org.

Series Synopsis

Jesus said the greatest commandment is to love the Lord your God with all your heart, mind, and soul. And the second greatest is like it; love your neighbor as yourself. Love God and love your neighbor. That is our call as followers of Jesus Christ. That is our task. But what does that look like today?

In the 18th century, John Wesley, the founder of the Methodist movement, asked a similar question for his time; how should Christians live in the world so that they are growing in grace and holiness together? In response, Wesley penned three simple rules for holy living; do no harm, do good, and stay in love with God. Join us as we explore each of these rules, discover their foundations within Scripture and Wesleyan tradition, and ask how we can live them out in our own time and place.

Message Synopsis

It begins by seeing every single person as a beloved child of God. It is no secret that our world is locked in conflict. But what would it look like if we agreed to do no harm? How would the climate of our conversations change, even in disagreement, if we were to seek truth and to do no harm? It takes great self-discipline, radical trust in God's presence and power, and choosing the path of discipleship. Because the truth is, hurt people hurt people. We must first allow the love and mercy of God to transform our hearts, constantly doing our own self-work, so that we can see and love the other without doing harm in the world.

Key Scriptures

Galatians 5:13-17

Questions Related to This Week's Message

1. Where do you see the most harm done in our world or Church today?
2. Where do you most often contribute to harm? Or when do you find it most difficult to resist doing harm?
3. How do you plan to "do no harm" this week? How can we help you?

Video and Discussion Questions from RightNow Media

Video: "Hurt by Fellow Christians" (3:19)

(located in the "Renovation Home Groups" channel)

<https://www.rightnowmedia.org/Content/illustration/98754>

Harm could be categorized in two ways. The first is when something bad happens to us – someone robs us or lies to us or throws something at us, they intentionally do something to harm us. The second can be harder to identify, because it happens when we don't receive something important and needed (this creates pain like hunger, abandonment, or loneliness). This can also be intentional but is more often an issue of not caring for or loving our neighbors. In fact, some of the worst harm we can do to a person is not caring – is not valuing them and affirming the image of God we see in them. By acting in our own interests without considering the other person's feelings, needs, questions or doubts, we harm their identity, their confidence, and their self-worth.

1. Discuss some of the ways you've been hurt by the non-caring of others.
2. Now consider how you've caused the same harm to the people around you (family, coworkers, other church members, neighbors, strangers).
3. If you've caused this harm in your own group, you may also want to take time to repent and ask forgiveness. This may be done in private after your gathering ends, or it may need to be done in front of others who witnessed the hurt you've caused.
4. Discuss ways in which you can hold each other accountable, in which you can pay more attention to caring, and in which you can "do no harm" to those around you this week.

Family-Related Questions:

It seems that much of parenting is telling our kids "no," especially when what they do causes harm to others ("stop hitting your brother," "don't talk to me that way," "stop throwing things!"), but do we really explain the value of doing no harm and how it relates to our Christian faith? How can we turn our "no" into a positive encouragement for our children to respond differently to their emotions?

1. Think about the way you teach your kids this lesson? Is your method causing harm in itself? Or is it creating disciples of Christ?
2. How do your own actions cause harm to your kids? Is there something about your behavior that you need help to change this week that is harming your children or family? How can your group support you in this?
3. When your children face hurt from others, how do you teach them to respond (by word and by example)? Do you tell them to get even? To report to an adult? To ignore it and stuff it inside? How can you better care for their needs, acknowledge their hurt, and help them choose a better and more loving response?
4. Consider watching "That Life No More" (<https://www.rightnowmedia.org/Content/illustration/105260>, in the Renovation Home Groups channel) as an example of how one person's response made a difference in the life of a youth who was intent on causing harm. What can you learn about parenting from this person's example?