



COME ONE

COME ALL

FAMILY CIRCUS

-A SERMON SERIES ON MARRIAGE AND FAMILY-

Conflict Resolution

Conflict

Hurt Feelings

Anger

Growth
Maturity

Understand, forgive, compromise

Invitation to dialogue:
"Let's talk."

Two choices

Two choices

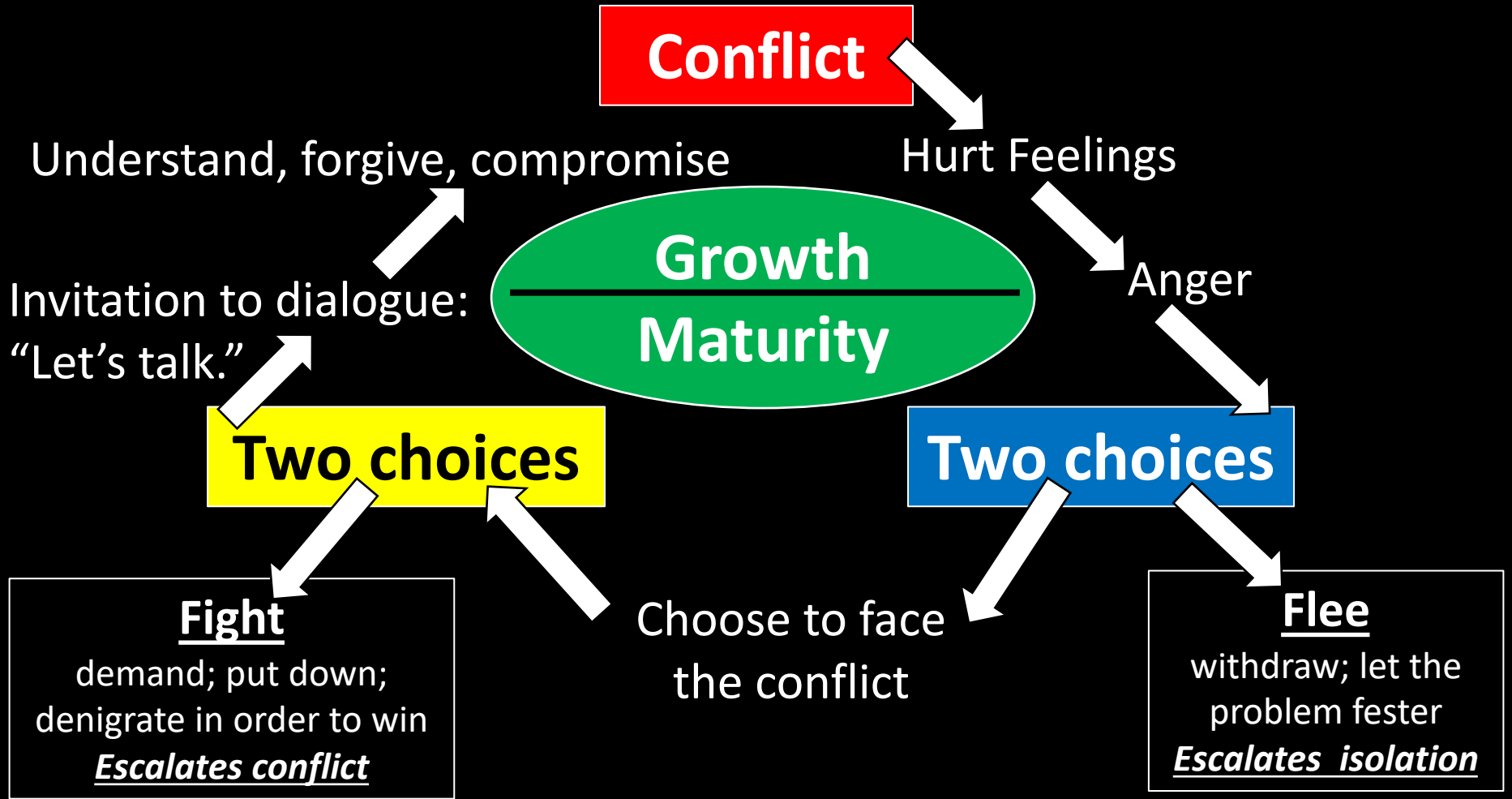
Fight

demand; put down;
denigrate in order to win
Escalates conflict

Choose to face
the conflict

Flee

withdraw; let the
problem fester
Escalates isolation





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CIRCUS**

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**Understanding and
extending forgiveness has
the power to radically
transform our relationships.**

**What is
Forgiveness?**

⁹ Pray then like this:

“Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name.

¹⁰ Your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.

¹¹ Give us this day our daily bread,
¹² and forgive us our debts,
as we also have forgiven our debtors.

¹³ And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

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“Forgive” – Apheimi

To put away,

to release from debt

Old Testament

Old Testament

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aphiēmi – “putting away of debt, Release”

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Charizomai – “gracious pardon”

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apolyō - “give leave, dismiss”

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Paresis - “passing over”

apolyō - “give leave, dismiss”

Hilaskomai - “atone”

airō - “take away”

Defining Forgiveness

To release someone from their past sins, to pass over, to cancel the debt, to let it go, to not take punishment and vengeance into our own hands. Pursuing restored and reconciled relationships (as appropriate).



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- **Forgiveness does not mean that we abandon justice.**

Romans 12:19

¹⁹ Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, “Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.”

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- *Forgiveness is not forgetting.*
- *Forgiveness is not excusing.*
- *Forgiveness is not overlooking.*
- *Forgiveness is not establishing truth.*
- *Forgiveness does not mean you never feel angry.*
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James 1:19

“Be slow to anger...”

Ephesians 4:26-27

²⁶ Be angry and do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, ²⁷ and give no opportunity to the devil.

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- *Forgiveness does not mean that we are angry.*

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Why Forgive?

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It's a command...

Luke 17:3-6

³ Pay attention to yourselves! If your brother sins, rebuke him, and if he repents, forgive him, ⁴ and if he sins against you seven times in the day, and turns to you seven times, saying, ‘I repent,’ you must forgive him.”

⁵ The apostles said to the Lord, “Increase our faith!” ⁶ And the Lord said, “If you had faith like a grain of mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, ‘Be uprooted and planted in the sea,’ and it would obey you.

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Ephesians 4:31-32

³¹ Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice.

³² Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.

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Why Forgive?

It sets us free

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32 Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, **forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.**

Proverbs 10:12

“Hatred stirs up strife, but love covers all offenses.”

Why Forgive?

It demonstrates that we understand God's forgiveness.

Matthew 6:9-13

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Matthew 6:14-15

¹⁴ For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you, ¹⁵ but if you do not forgive others their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

**Forgiven people are
forgiving people**

How To Forgive?

How To Forgive?

With Help...

How To Forgive?

With Help...

Divine Help

How To Forgive?

**Forgiveness begins
in our hearts.**

How To Forgive?

**We need the Gospel of Jesus to
run deep into our hearts.**

1 John 1:8-10

⁸ If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. ⁹ If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. ¹⁰ If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

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Psalm 103:8-13

⁸ The Lord is merciful and gracious,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

⁹ He will not always chide,
nor will he keep his anger forever.

¹⁰ He does not deal with us according to our sins,
nor repay us according to our iniquities.

Psalm 103:8-13

¹¹ For as high as the heavens are above the earth,
so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;

¹² as far as the east is from the west,
so far does he remove our transgressions from us.

¹³ As a father shows compassion to his children,
so the Lord shows compassion to those who fear him.

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