

# i-Quit!

- Sometimes we have to quit doing **one** thing so we can start doing the **right** thing.

## When it comes to doing life together...

- We can be easily **offended**.
- We all have **opinions** and **preferences**.
- We can be easily **frustrated**.

1 Where do you think all these appalling wars and quarrels come from? Do you think they just happen? Think again. They come about because you want your own way, and fight for it deep inside yourselves. James 4:1 (MSG)

- Our true self surfaces when things don't go **our way**.

19 Post this at all the intersections, dear friends: Lead with your ears, follow up with your tongue, and let anger straggle along in the rear.

20 God's righteousness doesn't grow from human anger.

21 So throw all spoiled virtue and cancerous evil in the garbage. In simple humility, let our gardener, God, landscape you with the Word, making a salvation-garden of your life. James 1:19-21 (MSG)

- **Anger** is not the virtue that allows others to experience God.

34 So now I am giving you a new commandment: Love each other. Just as I have loved you, you should love each other.

35 Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are my disciples." John 13:34-35 (NLT)

## When it comes to the American Church:

- **Loyalty** is paper thin.

## Something you need to know:

- Our **church** will never be **perfect**.
- There is **no perfect** church.

## A better response would be:

- Quit looking for the **perfect** church and start acting like Jesus' **disciples**.

24 "A kingdom divided by civil war will collapse.

25 Similarly, a family splintered by feuding will fall apart. Mark 3:24-25 (NLT)

10 I appeal to you,... to live in harmony with each other. Let there be no divisions in the church. Rather, be of one mind, united in thought and purpose. 1 Corinthians 1:10 (NLT)

- Love and loyalty are **personal** choices, but it's never **personal**.

10 Be devoted to each other like a loving family. Excel in showing respect for each other. Romans 12:10 (GWT)

## When we make love and loyalty our personal choice:

- We're **building** the church, not **tearing** it down.
- We're **being** the church.
- We're living in a way that God can **bless**.

## The question is:

- How are you going to **respond** when they inevitably do.

## When frustrated, Jesus says:

- Face to Face**.

15 "If a fellow believer hurts you, go and tell him—... Matthew 18:15a (MSG)

- One on One**.

15(b)...work it out between the two of you. If he listens, you've made a friend. Matthew 18:15b (MSG)

- Ask for **help**.

16 If he won't listen, take one or two others along so that the presence of witnesses will keep things honest, and try again. Matthew 18:16 (MSG)

## Remember:

- **People** are not your enemy.

12 For we are not fighting against people made of flesh and blood, but against persons without bodies—the evil rulers of the unseen world...Ephesians 6:12 (TLB)

- The **pastor** is not your enemy.

17 Be responsive to your pastoral leaders. Listen to their counsel. They are alert to the condition of your lives and work under the strict supervision of God. Contribute to the joy of their leadership, not its drudgery. Why would you want to make things harder for them? Hebrews 13:17 (MSG)

## Have Questions? Text them to: (559)-464-5754

### Questions that can be used in Connection Groups:

*These questions also work well for personal time with God.*

- What scripture and point spoke most to you from the Talk on Sunday?
- Do you find it true that our true self surfaces when things don't go our way? Why?
- Do you think that loyalty is scarce in the American church? Why do you think this is true?
- What do we mean when we say - "The church is not perfect"? Explain.
- Our personal choices affect others in negative ways. Have you ever been hurt by someone's personal choices? How do you think God wants our love and loyalty to be lived out in the church?
- Because you are the church, do you find it to be important to build up the church? Why?
- How are you going to respond when people in the church frustrate you?
- Why should we deal with our frustrations "Face to Face"?
- Why should we work our differences out "One on One"?
- What does the Matthew 18 principle say about how God wants us to handle our differences and frustrations?
- What does it mean when people and the pastor are not the enemy?

For more Talks, visit us at:

**fresnoquest.com**