

The Leader's Mandate: Small Group Facilitator's Guide

For Use with "Church Conflict Resolution" and "Living A Godly Life In An Un-godly World" Developed by Dr. Larry D. Andrews

"Iron sharpeneth iron; so a man sharpeneth the countenance of his friend." Proverbs 27:17 (KJV)

Part 1: The Facilitator's Code of Conduct

Before you open a session, understand your role. You are not there to lecture; you are there to engineer an environment of safety, truth, and reconciliation. Pray before you begin and upon completion of each session.

1. Guard the Room's "Shalom":

Conflict resolution requires vulnerability. Establish a strict rule of confidentiality from Day One. What is said in the circle stays in the circle.

2. Steer Away from Gossip:

If a participant brings up a specific person or a past church split maliciously, gently pivot them back to the principle. Use the phrase: *"Let's focus on the biblical mechanism for healing, rather than the history of the hurt."*

3. Be the "Ebenezer" Tracker:

Help your group see where God has brought them. Celebrate moments of breakthrough and apology during your time together.

Part 2: The 4-Week Workshop Lesson Guides

Week 1 The Foundation of Unity & The “Unity–Thieves”

- **Core Text:** *Church Conflict Resolution, Chapters 1-3*
- **Icebreaker Question:** “In your 30-second summary, what does ‘peace’ look like in a family or a church?”
- **The Leadership Pivot:** Explain that division isn’t just a disagreement – it is a spiritual attack designed to stop the harvest of souls.
- **Discussion Questions for Leaders to Ask:**
 1. Why do we often choose “peace-keeping” (ignoring the problem) over biblical “peace-making” (confronting it in love)?
 2. Read John 17:21. How does our internal church unity directly impact an unbeliever’s willingness to accept Christ?
- **Week 1 Action Step:** Challenge group members to identify one unresolved tension in their lives and commit it to prayer using the Matthew 18 protocol.

Week 2 The Peace-Maker’s Toolkit

- **Core Text:** *Church Conflict Resolution, Chapters 4-6*
- **The Leadership Pivot:** Walk the group through the “Grit and Grace” framework. Conflict requires the structural grit of accountability and the smooth grace of forgiveness.
- **Discussion Questions for Leaders to Ask:**
 1. Read Matthew 18:15. Why does the enemy tempt us to talk to “everyone else” about an offense before we talk to the person directly?
 2. How can we use the “listening to understand, not to reply” principle in the heat of a church or family debate?
- **Week 2 Action Step:** Practice a mock “reconciliation conversation” in pairs using the scripts found in the book.

Week 3 Guarding the Remnant in a Secular World

- **Core Text:** *Living A Godly Life In An Un-godly World, Chapters 1-4*
- **The Leadership Pivot:** Shift the focus from internal church health to external cultural survival.
- **Discussion Questions for Leaders to Ask:**
 1. Read Proverbs 4:23. In today's noisy and defiled world, how hard is it to maintain your Christian integrity when corporate policies or culture trends clash with the KJV standard?
 2. What are the "digital idols" entering our homes today through our screens, and how do they disrupt our spiritual heart rates?
- **Week 3 Action Step:** Implement a 2-hour daily "Digital Fast" this week to focus on prayer and reading the Bible.

Week 4 The Soul Winning Mandate

- **Core Text:** *Living A Godly Life In An Un-godly World, Chapters 5-7*
- **The Leadership Pivot:** This is the launchpad. A unified, holy church is the ultimate engine for evangelism.
- **Discussion Questions for Leaders to Ask:**
 1. If our church fully operated in "Shalom", what changes would our immediate community see?
 2. Reach souls for the Kingdom is not optional, it's a mandate. Who is the "one" specific soul in your home, workplace, or neighborhood that you are called to witness to this week?
- **Week 4 Action Step:** Pray a corporate prayer of activation over the group, commissioning them as marketplace ambassadors to win souls for the Kingdom.

Part 3: Facilitator's Troubleshooting Guide

Remember: John 10:10, (KJV)

"The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy..."

Chaos, Conflict, or Confusion is the fruit of "Unity-Thieves"

What to do if a argument breaks out in the group:

- **Intervene immediately.** Say: *"We are studying conflict resolution, which means the enemy would love nothing more than to cause discord right here. Let's take 60 seconds of silent prayer to reset our heart rates."*

What to do if someone dominates the conversation:

- **Gently Redirect.** Say: *"Thank you for that perspective. Let's hear from someone in the business sector on how they see this working out on Monday morning."*