

### For key church leaders and their passionate evangelisers

# 2. The way forward

## How can we work together?

## **Discussion** goal

To hear and understand each others experiences and hearts regarding past tensions, and, with God's grace, to begin to help one another to find and choose responses to these tensions that are best and right.

Before watching the video

- Welcome and prayer
- Recap lessons and personal takeaways from the previous tutorial.

#### Watch video

## **Opening**

1. Have you ever made an embarrassing mistake, and needed to go and apologise afterwards? What happened?

#### Discussion

"Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to you brother; then come and offer your gift." Matthew 5:23

- 2. To summarise the video: Can you recall some of the suggestions given for pastors, and then those for evangelists? Do these make sense to you?
- 3. Last session we shared some of our good and not-so-good experiences in relating across the 'pastor-evangelist divide'. Sometimes these experiences affect us. In reflecting on this, can any of you see anything further that you could do to better resolve a past tension, and/or its effects upon you?
- 4. Have any of you been involved in trying to resolve a tension between a pastor or church and an evangelist? What happened as a result? (This allows for success and failure stories to be shared and learned from)
- 5. Negative attitudes can become ingrained in all of us if we have a few experiences in a row that reinforce them. What do you think are the keys to overcoming negative attitudes? Can you think of any examples in your lives where you have battled and succeeded in overcoming a strongly ingrained emotion or attitude?





6. Optional question: What if a church is truly negative toward the evangelists within it? What if having a respected and healthy team of evangelisers in a church is not possible no matter how much the evangelist seeks to adapt? What is the right response? Share your thoughts

<u>Important perspective</u>: We are reminded that our own emotional freedom has nothing to do with what others say and do. It is all about our understanding of who God is, and who we are in relation to Him, ministering faithfully in whatever opportunities He gives.

## **Application**

- 7. Is there someone you need to forgive or ask for forgiveness? Is there someone you need to have a coffee with to reconcile things? Would you commit to initiate this in the next week?
- 8. Can you see any attitudes you might need to work on?

In smaller groups spend time praying together, and praying for one another.

#### **FOR PASTORS**

Weblink to online sermon and study resource for pastors who want to prepare their members for outreach through the pulpit:

— At AllTogether.co.nz/resources there is a 'sermon' resource that includes sermon outlines for motivating and equipping church members for everyday conversational outreach. Each outline comes with a small group study – because people remember 10% of what they hear, but 40% of what they say. With this approach equipping an entire congregation, year-upon-year, is made easy.

At AllTogether.co.nz/ATConsulting there is a powerful strategy for pastors, which comes with resources, and the option of support to apply it via subscription. This is purposed to help pastors bring a sustained change to the outreaching culture of their congregations.

