

# Introduction to Corps and Conflict



## INTRODUCTION TO CORPS AND CONFLICT

**4 Sessions**

**Mar 9, 23, Apr 6, 20, 2022**

**Leader: Dr. James Watson, Corps Health  
and Planting Consultant**

THQ Corps Mission Resource  
[www.saMissionResource.ca](http://www.saMissionResource.ca)



<b>Brief Description</b>	Conflict is a natural part of human relationships. How we respond to conflict can create opportunities for growth and new direction. This introduction is designed with congregational leaders in mind.
<b>Leader</b>	Dr. James Watson, Corps Health and Planting Consultant
<b>Presenter</b>	Dr. James Watson, Corps Health and Planting Consultant Bio: With graduate level study of congregational conflict and years of experience teaching frameworks for understanding and managing conflict Dr. Watson offers perspective from 13 years of consulting with corps. He holds an MDiv degree from McMaster Divinity College and a PhD from Fuller Theological Seminary.

# Introduction to Corps and Conflict



Schedule			
Date & Time	Session Title	Description	Pre-session preparation
<b>March 9, 1 pm (Eastern time), 2022</b>	Bible & Conflict	Discussion: What biblical stories, themes, or principles come to mind when you think of conflict. Biblical principles will be presented to guide our ideas and actions.	Read before session: Romans 12:18 and chapter (“A Biblical View of Conflict” from <i>Making Peace</i> ) provided via email.
<b>March 23, 1 pm (Eastern time), 2022</b>	Knowing Ourselves	Breakout Discussion Groups: How do you respond to conflict when you are at ease or when you are stressed? We will consider relational, ethical, cultural, and spiritual factors which affect us when there are disagreements.	Complete the Riverhouse ePress “Style Matters Online” survey of personal conflict style ( <a href="https://www.riverhouseepress.com/index.php?option=com_virtuemart&amp;view=productdetails&amp;virtuemart_product_id=3&amp;Itemid=176">https://www.riverhouseepress.com/index.php?option=com_virtuemart&amp;view=productdetails&amp;virtuemart_product_id=3&amp;Itemid=176</a> ). There is a small cost for this resource.
<b>April 6, 1 pm (Eastern time), 2022</b>	Seeking Understanding	Frameworks for understanding conflict will be explored. Breakout Discussion Groups: We will apply a framework to a (hypothetical) situation.	Read before session: notes for the third session (to be provided via email).  Via “reply all” to an email prompt, propose an issue/situation to be addressed in the last session.
<b>April 20, 1 pm (Eastern time), 2022</b>	Steps Forward	Constructive directions forward will be considered. Breakout Discussion Groups: Teams will imagine a way forward for the issue/situation proposed by the cohort.	View before session: “Conflict Management for Church Leaders” ( <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WmJSy7i-52k">youtube.com/watch?v=WmJSy7i-52k</a> ).  Via “reply all” to an email prompt, identify what you would like your congregation to learn about conflict.

# Introduction to Corps and Conflict



## Annotated Bibliography

Cloud, Henry. *Necessary Endings: The Employees, Businesses, and Relationships That All of Us Have to Give Up in Order to Move Forward*. Harper Collins, 2011.

An exploration of how to end relational engagements, which need to end, with integrity.

Halverstadt, Hugh F. *Managing Church Conflict*. Westminster John Knox Press, 1991.

A textbook on conflict management process for churches.

Harris, Ray. *Convictions Matter*. Salvation Army Headquarters for Canada & Bermuda, 2014.

An exploration of doctrine using the lens of holiness.

Kim, Matthew D. *Preaching with Cultural Intelligence*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2017.

A textbook offering a process for developing sermons which are sensitive to the cultural differences in the congregation. Cultural awareness can assist in diminishing conflicting cultural understandings.

McAlpine, Bill, Joel Thiessen, Keith Walker, and Arch Chee Keen Wong. *Signs of Life: Catholic, Mainline, and Conservative Protestant Congregations in Canada*. Toronto: Tyndale Academic Press, 2021.

A national research project reviewing Canadian understandings of “flourishing” for congregations.

Munn, Janet and Stephen Court. “Rhythms of Prayer: Something for Everyone.” In *Army on its Knees: The Dynamics of Great Commission Prayer*. London: Salvation Books, 2012, 49-66.

This a comprehensive book on prayer. This particular chapter presents multiple approaches to prayer.

Needham, Phil. *Community in Mission*. Frontier Press, 2016. Free download: [frontierpress.org/shop/community-in-mission](http://frontierpress.org/shop/community-in-mission)

An ecclesiology for The Salvation Army which is both inspirational and engages theological thinking.

Poirier, Alfred. *The Peacemaking Pastor: A Biblical Guide to Resolving Church Conflict*. Baker Books, 2006.

Focused on grounding pastoral conflict resolution in biblical/theological concepts and practices.

Scazzero, Peter. *The Emotionally Healthy Church, Updated and Expanded Edition: A Strategy for Discipleship That Actually Changes Lives*. Zondervan, 2009.

An introduction to developing congregational, emotional intelligence based in discipleship.

Sheffield, Dan. *The Multicultural Leader: Developing a Catholic Personality, Second Edition*. Clements Publishing, 2015.

A Canadian pastor/mission leader explores how to minister in a multicultural context and encourage the development of congregations along the spectrum of multicultural engagement.

Tira, Sadiri Joy, and Juliet Lee Uytanlet. *A Hybrid World: Diaspora, Hybridity, and Missio Dei*. William Carey Publishing, 2020.

Authors (many with Canadian experience) writing on cultural hybridity; an identity composed of mixed cultures.

Whitesel, Bob. *Preparing for Change Reaction: How to Introduce Change in Your Church*. Indianapolis: Wesleyan Publishing House, 2007.

This practical guide is designed to be used by church leaders with their boards as a tool for negotiating needed changes. The author compellingly makes the case that new methodology can and must be embraced without altering a church’s beliefs or mission. He then offers a series of exercises to be undertaken jointly by church leaders that will result in the production of a master plan for managing change effectively in the local church.

Yperen, Jim Van. *Making Peace: A Guide to Overcoming Church Conflict*. Moody Publishers, 2008.

Theological perspective on church conflict with practical applications.