



Rock Point Church
Bill & Carrie Bush | 3.2.2025

BIG IDEA | Fight the problem, not the person.

How to have a tough conversation:

-Say it.

Matthew 18:15 (NLT)

¹⁵ "If another believer sins against you, go privately and point out the offense. If the other person listens and confesses it, you have won that person back.

How to have a tough conversation:

-Say it.

-Say it straight.

Ephesians 4:15 (NLT)

¹⁵ Instead, we will speak the truth in love, growing in every way more and more like Christ, who is the head of his body, the church.

How to have a tough conversation:

- Say it.
- Say it straight.

How to have a tough conversation:

- Say it.
- Say it straight.
- Say it supportively.

Philippians 2:3 (NLT)

³ Don't be selfish; don't try to impress others. Be humble, thinking of others as better than yourselves.

How to have a tough conversation:

- Say it.
- Say it straight.
- Say it supportively.
- Say it all.

Proverbs 4:7 (NLT)

⁷ Getting wisdom is the wisest thing you can do!

And whatever else you do, develop good judgment.

How to have a tough conversation:

-Say it.

-Say it straight.

-Say it supportively.

-Say it all.

-Say it soon.

Ephesians 4:26-27 (NLT)

²⁶ “don’t sin by letting anger control you.” Don’t let the sun go down while you are still angry,

²⁷ for anger gives a foothold to the devil

GROUPS QUESTIONS:

1. What stood out to you about this week’s sermon?
2. Pastor Bill gave two examples of how people deal with conflict utilizing shoes: the runner or the combat boots. Which of these do you relate to most? How does

understanding the differences in these communication styles improve relationships?

3. Ephesians 4:15 encourages us to “speak the truth in love.” Can you think of a time when unclear or mixed messages caused a misunderstanding? What steps can we take to ensure our words are both truthful and loving?

4. Proverbs 17:27 says, “A truly wise person uses few words.” Have you ever regretted speaking too quickly? How can we develop self-awareness to know when to speak and when to remain silent?

5. What are some ways we can approach difficult conversations without becoming defensive or critical? How can we keep the goal of resolution, rather than winning, in mind?

6. Why do you think people often avoid sharing the “last 10%” in conversations? How can bringing up the full picture in a loving way prevent future resentment or conflict?

7. Thinking about your personal relationships (family, friends, workplace, church), is there a conversation you’ve been avoiding that you need to have? How can you approach it with clarity, love, and humility this week?