
COMMUNITY IS MESSY

THE THREE KINDS OF MESSES

Sin Mess

When people do something outside the perfect will of God

Relational Mess

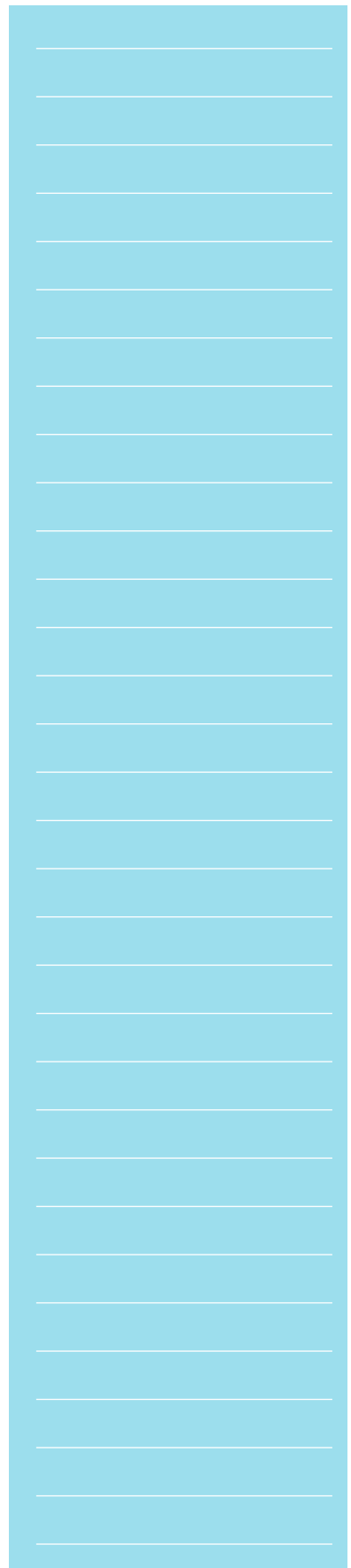
When there are differences of personalities or perspectives in group

Life Mess

When people's lives blow up because we live in a fallen world

WALKING TOWARD THE MESS

1. Acknowledge the mess.
2. Categorize the mess (sin, relational, or life).
3. Have the right perspective.
4. Ask good questions.
5. Talk to the right people.
6. Communicate a biblical goal.
7. Commit to the process.



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After viewing Heather Zempel’s talk, think about (or discuss with other group leaders) how you’d address the following scenarios.

GROUP DISCUSSION SCENARIO #1:

A member of your group is irritated by the amount of time another member speaks during group discussions. Without saying anything directly, the first group members makes his or her feelings known through attitude and actions. The other group member does tend to dominate the conversation. How do you respond to the growing tension in your group?

GROUP DISCUSSION SCENARIO #2

A member of your group announces to the entire group that she’s moving in with her boyfriend. She’s excited and clearly expects you to be excited for her. Some of the other group members congratulate her. How do you respond?

GROUP DISCUSSION SCENARIO #3

A member shares with the group that he lost his job over one month ago and was embarrassed to say anything about it. Now, he’s worried about being able to pay his mortgage and utilities. What do you say and do?

