



**Session 2:
GOOD SPORTSMANSHIP AND
THE PRINCIPLES OF HOLY CONFERENCING
PARTICIPANT'S GUIDE**

Written by Rev. Jennifer Weekes-Klein

Video Teaching

The sweet spot of Christian Conferencing is a means of grace.

“Little Christs” (Χριστός)

The basic principles, or attitudes, of good sportsmanship:

Principle #1 Let prayer prevail.

Principle #2 Remember every person is a child of God.

Principle #3 Treat one another with respect.

Principle #4 Listen patiently.

Principle #5 Understand the other's perspective.

Principle #6 Reflect the views of others.

Principle #7 Agree to disagree.

Principle #8 Speak about issues.

Principle #9 People are defined by their relationship with God

Group Discussion:

1. According to the Rev. Klein, Holy Conferencing is a means of grace. How?
2. Bob Kendrick, president of the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum, shared an example of Buck O'Neil and the "Golden Rule." What does this story tell us about the character of Buck O'Neil and finding the sweet spot of being present in the midst of adversity with integrity and faith? What struck you as important, and a true sign of character, in this story?



3. What does it mean to be a “little Christ”? Is this the first time you’ve heard this phrase? What does being a “little Christ” imply about our finding the sweet spot and practicing the means of grace known as Holy Conferencing? Who has been a good example for you as someone who practices the presence of Christ in the world?
4. Review the basic principles. How do they help us, as a people of faith, to engage others in holy conversations around difficult topics and divisive issues?
5. Are there some that seem more difficult than others?
6. What are the principles necessary for God’s grace to be fully experienced and for God’s good to be fulfilled?
7. How might your church share, learn, and practice these principles in order to be better prepared for time of conflict, disagreement, and tension?
8. For what purpose might your church consider being intentional about sharing, learning and putting into practice these principles?

Closing Prayer:

Lord, make me an instrument of Your peace.

**Where there is hatred, let me sow love;
where there is injury, pardon;
where there is doubt, faith;
where there is despair, hope;
where there is darkness, light;
where there is sadness, joy.**

O, Divine Master,

**grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console;
to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love;
For it is in giving that we receive;
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned;
it is in dying that we are born again to eternal life. Amen.**