

There are those cases where a team member finds it necessary to call attention to the faults of others. If a team member in a non-leadership position sees that other members of the team are in conflict, his first obligation is to talk directly to those parties. If this does not help, petitioning for a team meeting would seem to be in order.

If the opening statement of the team leader or petitioner is not in the form of a confession, it should be in the form of an introductory statement explaining what the problem is or is thought to be. "The reason I called this meeting is that I have sensed that our relationships with each other have become tense and in some cases, downright unfriendly. I believe this tension goes back to our discussion of the problems related to the youth banquet. We came out of that discussion with some hurt feelings and implied accusations and it appears that the rift created has continued to deepen and widen. It is time that we dealt with the matter and resolved it."

The next step is very important. Everyone involved is aware of the problem as outlined, but there may be the tendency to prepare for another round of battle. The various members may begin to strengthen their mental defenses at the prospect of another discussion or argument where their views will be tested. For this reason, this segment of the meeting ought to be divided into two parts: self-examination and examination of the charges.

Part 1, e.g., Leader: "Let's take a few minutes for personal prayer and thought in reference to our own contribution to the conflict."