

WELS NATIONAL  
CONFERENCE ON



**LUTHERAN  
LEADERSHIP**



**WELS**  
Christ's Love, Our Calling.

*SECTIONAL 24:*

# **MAKING IT REAL -- INTENTIONAL STRATEGIES FOR GOSPEL-CENTERED UNITY**

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# PART 1: INTRODUCTION

# GROUND RULES

"...speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ." (Ephesians 4:15)

- Opportunity for honest dialogue and gaining practical tools
- Safe space for non-judgmental, confidential discussion
- Grounded in our common faith in what unites us in Christ

*"By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another." (John 13:35)*

# INTRODUCE YOURSELF

- Why this sectional?
- What motivated you to be here?
- What prompted you to select this session?



## PART 2: TRAINING IN COURAGEOUS CONVERSATION PROTOCOL



2014

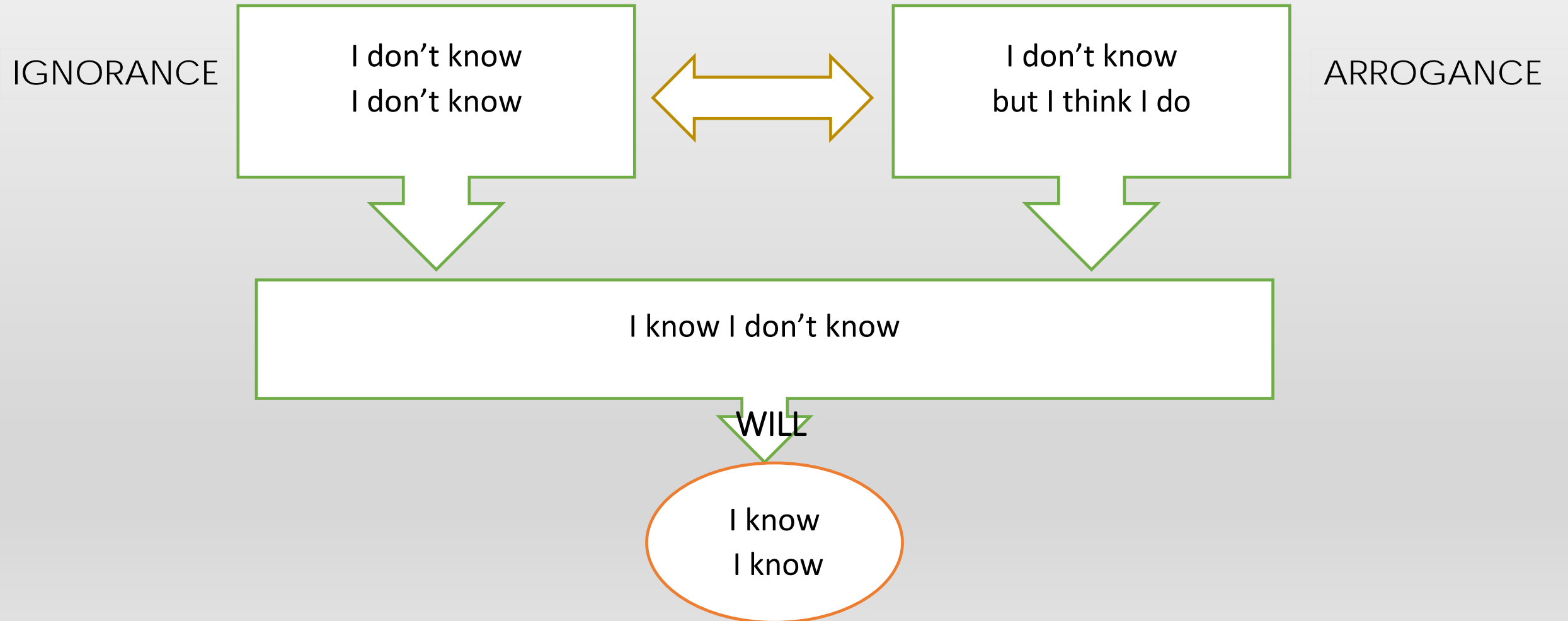


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# MY EXPERIENCE WITH COURAGEOUS CONVERSATION TRAINING

# RACIAL CONSCIOUSNESS FLOW CHART





# FOUR AGREEMENTS FOR COURAGEOUS CONVERSATIONS:

- Stay Engaged
- Experience discomfort
- Speak your mind
- Expect and accept non-closure

# DISCUSSION:

- During a conversation about race, has anyone ever experienced *disengagement* from the conversation? How did it impact the dialogue?
- Has anyone felt *discomfort* during a conversation on race? If so, did you work through the discomfort successfully, or was it left unresolved?
- Which emotions prevent you from *speaking your mind* during inter-racial conversations about race? Which conditions can make it safer for you to deal with racial fears and speak your mind?
- Why is it necessary to *expect and accept non-closure* when dealing with race?

# COURAGEOUS CONVERSATION COMPASS





# SIX CONDITIONS OF COURAGEOUS CONVERSTATIONS

1. Focus on Personal, Local and Immediate
2. Isolate Race
3. Normalize Social Construction & Multiple Perspectives
4. Monitor Agreements, Conditions and Establish Parameters
5. Use a “Working Definition” for Race
6. Examine the Presence and Role of “Whiteness”



## PART 3: DISCUSSION AND QUESTIONS

# TIME FOR PRACTICE

"Germs left over from the disease of forced segregation, discrimination, and social separation lie deep within us all. For Blacks, the residue is anger, bitterness, inferiority, and blame. For Whites, the residue that years of social and spiritual disease have left behind includes denial, fear, guilt, superiority, and racial blinders. This residue will inevitably surface and have to be confronted in a multi-racial setting." (p.115)

-- Chris Rice

*Restoring At-Risk Communities:  
Doing it Together and Doing it Right*



# REFLECTION AND DISCUSSION

Reflect on Chris Rice's quote from your personal, local and immediate context.

- What is your reaction?
- Do you agree or disagree with his comments?
- Identify yourself on compass.
- Follow the four agreements.

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# DISCUSSION

- **Why** is it important to engage with others who aren't like me if I am in a culture that is not diverse?
- **How** do you cross barriers and connect with those who aren't like you?





**CLOSING THOUGHTS AND QUESTIONS**

# PRESENTER CONTACT INFORMATION

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