

## I'm Tired of Fighting – Bible Study Lesson

### Mark 3:24-25 (NLT)

24 “A kingdom divided by civil war will collapse.

25 Similarly, a family splintered by feuding will fall apart.

**Family:** the institution God uses to develop, shape, and support you while helping you adjust to changing circumstances of life.

### 1 Peter 3:9-12 (NLT)

9 Don't repay evil for evil. Don't retaliate with insults when people insult you. Instead, pay them back with a blessing. That is what God has called you to do, and he will grant you his blessing.

10 For the Scriptures say, “If you want to enjoy life and see many happy days, keep your tongue from speaking evil and your lips from telling lies.

11 Turn away from evil and do good. Search for peace, and work to maintain it.

12 The eyes of the Lord watch over those who do right, and his ears are open to their prayers. But the Lord turns his face against those who do evil.”

Even though today's topic is very seldom discussed in homes, families, and churches, it is something that comes up quite often. Conflict is a normal part of any healthy relationship. After all, two, three, or even five people can't be expected to agree on everything all the time. But, **fighting** is dangerous and unhealthy. When conflict is mismanaged, it can cause great harm to our marriages and family relationships. However, when it is handled in a respectful manner that honors God, it provides an opportunity to strengthen family bonds and takes our relationships to another level. Today, we will examine the reasons why we fight and the dangers of remaining in conflict. With this in mind, let's examine: **I'm Tired of Fighting.**

### Proverbs 18:21 (NLT)

## **21 The tongue can bring death or life; those who love to talk will reap the consequences.**

Most of our fights come from an inability to talk to one another. Improper communication causes conflict. Often, it's not what we say. It's how we say it. This is especially true when it comes to family and romantic relationships. Men and women don't think anything alike. Children and teens think totally different than everyone. Every fight or argument we've ever had was started by the wrong words. **EITHER, IT WAS SAID WRONG OR, IT WAS HEARD WRONG.** That's why it's so important to get to know the people in your family, so you will know how to effectively communicate with them.

### **1. We fight because we don't know how to communicate.**

#### **Amos 3:3 (NLT)**

### **3 Can two people walk together without agreeing on the direction?**

One of the biggest tools of the enemy is disagreement. Conflict distracts us from our purpose. He knows that if he can get one of us out of alignment, we will mess ourselves up. Remember, **HEAVEN DOESN'T EVEN MOVE UNTIL WE TOUCH AND AGREE.** The enemy knows that when we remain in conflict, there is no touching and definitely no agreement. **Sometimes, we're even too proud to agree to disagree.**

### **2. We fight because we're too proud to agree.**

#### **Ephesians 4:26 (NLT)**

**26 And "don't sin by letting anger control you." Don't let the sun go down while you are still angry,**

Here's a question: **Why are you so angry?** Remember, no relationship is conflict-free. If everything is perfect all the time, it's often because someone is doing all the giving and someone else is doing all the taking. Often, when we disagree, someone gets angry. Eventually, we end up in a fight when one or both people give in to their anger. In every family relationship, sometimes conflict will lead to anger. **However, if we don't deal with our anger, we won't fix it, we'll just fight about it.**

### 3. We fight because we refuse to deal with our anger.

#### Luke 8:17 (NLT)

**17 For all that is secret will eventually be brought into the open, and everything that is concealed will be brought to light and made known to all.**

We can never conquer what we are unwilling to confront. Some people start a fight, so they won't have to address the issues. They just make you mad and wait for you to get over it. Contrary to popular belief, you won't just get over it. You must address it, whatever **IT** may be. Remember, **IF TIME HEALS, GOD IS UNNECESSARY**. Whatever you don't address will continue to fester, like a smoldering fire. If unaddressed, it will one day burst out and burn our entire family relationship down.

### 4. We fight because we're afraid to address the real issue.

#### Genesis 3:1-4 (NLT)

**3 The serpent was the shrewdest of all the wild animals the Lord God had made. One day he asked the woman, "Did God really say you must not eat the fruit from any of the trees in the garden?"**

**2 "Of course we may eat fruit from the trees in the garden," the woman replied.**

**3 "It's only the fruit from the tree in the middle of the garden that we are not allowed to eat. God said, 'You must not eat it or even touch it; if you do, you will die.'"**

**4 "You won't die!" the serpent replied to the woman.**

We must decide whose voice matters most. Improper relationships produce conflict. Have you ever met someone who always has a problem with everybody? Have you ever had a friend that had you fighting all the time? Wrong relationships put you in conflict. Remember, **EVE'S RELATIONSHIP WITH A SNAKE PUT HER IN CONFLICT WITH GOD!!!** Wrong people will mess your family up. Anyone who contradicts God's Word is a snake.

## **5. We fight because of the voice we hear when we make decisions.**

**Conflict** is a normal part of any healthy relationship. After all, two, three, or even five people can't be expected to agree on everything all the time. But, **fighting** is dangerous and unhealthy. However, when it is handled in a respectful manner that honors God, conflict provides an opportunity to strengthen family bonds and takes our relationships to another level.