

Home Sense – Uncommon Sense for Family Life
PART #3 - Uncommon Conflict - Fighting For Peace

Sunday February 25, 2007 – Pastor Dave Larmour

Q – Why do we fight?

“What causes fights and quarrels among you? Don’t they come from our desires that battle within you? You want something but don’t get it. You kill and covet, but you cannot have what you want. You quarrel and fight. You do not have, because you do not ask God.” James 4:1-2)

Q - Why is resolving conflict important?

Vertical Reason

“... so that nothing will hinder your prayers ...” (1 Peter 3:7)

“Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to your brother; then come and offer your gift.” (Matthew 5:23-24)

A. Conflict is Part of Life:

Conflict with the relational, spiritual and material world (Job)

RELATIONAL – Adam & Eve ... Cain & Abel

SPIRITUAL – Genesis 3:15; Ephesians 6:12

PHYSICAL - Genesis 3:16, 17

B. Communication is Critical in order to Redeem Conflict:

BIBLICAL EXAMPLE – JOSEPH (GENESIS 37-47)

Control...

Control **Emotions**

Control Words

Correct...

Correct Attitudes

Correct Actions

- ✓ **Stuffing** isn't the solution
- ✓ **Sprinting** will create an artificial peace
- ✓ **Slamming** will make it worse

Confront ...

Confront **carefully**

Care-fronting

- ✓ John 8 (truth & love)

C. Confrontation Application ...

- ✓ Keep the circle **tight** (Matthew 18:15)
- ✓ Watch your **anger** meter (Ephesians 4:25-27)
- ✓ Speak **gently** (Proverbs 15:1)
- ✓ Nurture your **perspective** (Joseph)
- ✓ Provide **cover** for others (Proverbs 10:12)