

How to Have a Great Fight

Family Matters – Part 5

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“For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.” (Ephesians 6:12, NIV84)

LIFE is a fight; and if you have to fight then
“Why Not Have A Great One?”

How Can We Have A “Great Fight” And Win?

1. To have a great fight, I must be **WISE!**

“If you are wise and understand God’s ways, prove it by living an honorable life, doing good works with the humility that comes from wisdom. But if you are bitterly jealous and there is selfish ambition in your heart, don’t cover up the truth with boasting and lying. For jealousy and selfishness are not God’s kind of wisdom. Such things are earthly, unspiritual, and demonic. For wherever there is jealousy and selfish ambition, there you will find disorder and evil of every kind. But the wisdom from above is first of all pure. It is also peace loving, gentle at all times, and willing to yield to others. It is full of mercy and the fruit of good deeds. It shows no favoritism and is always sincere. And those who are peacemakers will plant seeds of peace and reap a harvest of righteousness.”

(James 3:13–18, NLT)

Wisdom speaks to what I **DO** not what I **THINK.**

Wisdom is the key to having a **HEALTHY FIGHT**

2. To have a great fight I must not start out in someone else’s **ARENA** of advantage”

I can't compete with your crazymaking. It just = more crazymaking!

3. To have a great fight I must be a **PEACEMAKER** not a crazymaker

“Jesus replied, “You must love the LORD your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind.’ This is the first and greatest commandment. A second is equally important: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.” (Matthew 22:37–39, NLT)

If I only **REACT** to circumstances then I lose the *gift* to **RESPOND**.

Most of us weren't trained in **“Conflict Resolution.”**

“God blesses those who work for peace, for they will be called the children of God.” (Matthew 5:9, NLT)

*“And those who are peacemakers will plant seeds of peace and reap a harvest of righteousness.”
(James 3:18, NLT)*

What does that look like?

A stable, significant, valued, respected, passionate and spiritual relationship.

What “peace-making” is not?

1. **Avoiding**
2. **Conceding**
3. **Fearing**

4. To have a great fight I must **LISTEN** not just **HEAR**

HEARING zeros in on the **VOICE**
LISTENING zeros in on the **HEART**

Life is a Fight, Choose to Make it **Good, Healthy “Fighting!”**