

HOW TO HAVE A GOOD FIGHT!

- I. Remember the **Charity Principle!** (1Corinthians 13)
 - A. It states that we should interpret people's words and actions in the best possible way.
 1. Consider their intent, and not just their wording.
 2. It is giving people the benefit of the doubt!
 - B. When you consider 1 Corinthians 13 and apply it to our relationships you will find some important phrases to help us with disagreements.
 1. Thinketh no evil – vs. 5 – does not listen with the filter of negativity, but rather listens and thinks the best.
 2. Beareth all things – vs. 7
 3. Believeth all things – vs. 7
 4. Endureth all things – vs. 7
 - C. Love is the foundation of every strong relationship and so we should incorporate it's principles into our disagreements. Love will not stop our disagreements, but it will help us find resolution and restoration the way God intended.
- II. KEEP IT **CLEAN**. (1Peter 3:9-10)
 - A. Name calling, cussing, and vulgarity have no place in a fight.
 - B. **Hitting** is a sin.
 - C. Biblically you are to render a **blessing** for a cursing. (vs. 9)
 - D. Attack the **problem not the person.**
 - E. NO cheap shots!

- III. KEEP IT **CONTAINED**. (Matthew 18:15-18)
- A. Don't include **OTHERS** in your fight.
 - B. When you tell others about your problems and complain you are just **GOSSIPING**.
 - C. Talk just about the problem at hand, not all your problems.
 - Don't bring up the **PAST** problems that have been resolved.
 - Don't discuss **UNRELATED** problems.
- IV. **CONFRONT** YOUR OPPONENT! (MATTHEW 18:15-18)
- A. Too many people try to avoid a **CONFLICT** and let things build up.
 - B. Don't expect change to come from a **HIT AND RUN** confrontation.
- V. SEEK WISE **COUNSEL**. (Proverbs 24:6)
- A. It is always good to have a good **COACH** in your corner.
 - B. If your ways have messed things up, your ways will not **FIX THEM**.
 - C. The counselor should be **SPIRITUAL AND TRUTHFUL**.
 - Galatians 6:1
 - If you are sick go to a doctor, if your marriage is broken go to a counselor who can help!
- VI. **COMPLETE IT** - RESOLUTION (Ephesians 4:26)
- A. Unresolved conflicts today **ALWAYS** come back to hurt you!
 - B. Don't let it go until it is solved!

VII. **CONCLUDE** PROPERLY (SHAKE HANDS!)

A. Reaffirm your love to each other!

B. Let each other know that the problem is resolved!