



PULL TOGETHER WHEN YOU'RE PULLED APART

Series: Marriage Matters - Part 3 of 6
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"A home filled with strife and division destroys itself."

Mark 3:25 (LB)

I. WHAT CAUSES CONFLICT?

"Do you know where your fights and arguments come from? They come from the selfish desires that war within you." James 4:1 (NCV)

- * "My Way"
- * "No Way"
- * "Your Way"
- * "Half Way"
- * "Our Way"

II. HOW TO PULL TOGETHER WHEN PULLED APART

1. CALL ON GOD FOR HELP.

"You quarrel and fight. You do not have, because you do not ask God." James 4:2b (NIV)

2. CONFESS MY PART OF THE CONFLICT

"Why do you look at the speck in another's eye, and pay no attention to the log in your own eye? Take the log out of your own eye first, then you'll be able to see clearly..."

Matthew 7:3,5 (GN)

3. CONVENE A PEACE CONFERENCE

"If you remember someone has something against you, leave your gift at the altar and go at once to make peace... Then come back and offer your gift to God." Matthew 5:23-24 (GN)

4. CUT OUT ABUSIVE LANGUAGE

"Do not use harmful words, but only helpful words, the kind that build up and provide what is needed..." Ephesians 4:29 (GN)

"You must put away all these things:... furious rage, malice, insults, and shouted abuse! And don't deceive each other with lies anymore." Colossians 3:8 (Ph)

5. CONSIDER MY MATE'S PERSPECTIVE.

"We must bear the `burden' of being considerate of the doubts and fears of others..." Romans 15:2 (LB)

"Look to each other's interest and not merely to your own." Philippians 2:4 (NEB)

6. CONCENTRATE ON RECONCILIATION, NOT RESOLUTION.

"Reconciliation" - to reestablish the relationship
"Resolution" - to resolve every issue

"Wisdom ... is peace-loving and courteous. It allows discussion and is willing to yield to others..." James 3:17 (LB)

"Let the peace of heart that comes from Christ always be present in your hearts..." Colossians 3:15 (LB)