

SHUT THE DOOR ON STRIFE - LESSON 1

Proverbs 17:1 ERV

It is better to have nothing but a dry piece of bread to eat in peace than a whole house full of food with everyone arguing.

UNCHECKED STRIFE IN MARRIAGE, ORGANIZATIONS OR IN ANY OTHER TYPE OF RELATIONSHIP OPENS THE DOOR TO MISUNDERSTANDINGS, TRAGEDIES, ACCIDENTS, SICKNESS AND ALL THE DESTRUCTIVE WORKS OF THE DEVIL.

IN THIS LESSON WE WILL DISCUSS HOW TO SHUT THE DOOR ON STRIFE IN THE FAMILY

I. STRIFE IN FAMILY RELATIONSHIPS

James 3:13-18 KJVS

Who is a wise man and endued with knowledge among you? let him shew out of a good conversation his works with meekness of wisdom. [14] But if ye have bitter envying and strife in your hearts, glory not, and lie not against the truth. [15] This wisdom descendeth not from above, but is earthly, sensual, devilish. [16] For where envying and strife is, there is confusion and every evil work. [17] But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be intreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy. [18] And the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace of them that make peace.

James 3:13-18 ERV

Are there any among you who are really wise and understanding? Then you should show your wisdom by living right. You should do what is good with humility. A wise person does not boast. [14] If you are selfish and have bitter jealousy in your hearts, you have no

reason to boast. Your boasting is a lie that hides the truth. [15] That kind of "wisdom" does not come from God. That "wisdom" comes from the world. It is not spiritual. It is from the devil. [16] Where there is jealousy and selfishness, there will be confusion and every kind of evil. [17] But the wisdom that comes from God is like this: First, it is pure. It is also peaceful, gentle, and easy to please. This wisdom is always ready to help people who have trouble and to do good for others. This wisdom is always fair and honest. [18] People who work for peace in a peaceful way get the blessings that come from right living.

A. TWO THINGS STRIFE PRODUCES

1. CONFUSION - DRAMA. NO PEACE

Isaiah 59:8 NRSV

The way of peace they do not know, and there is no justice in their paths.

2. EVERY EVIL WORK- DEMONIC. PLAYGROUND FOR SATAN

1 Corinthians 14:33 KJVS

For God is not the author of confusion, but of peace, as in all churches of the saints.

II. PEACE IS GOD'S WILL FOR MAN

John 14:27 NLT

"I am leaving you with a gift-peace of mind and heart. And the peace I give is a gift the world cannot give. So don't be troubled or afraid.

NOTE: GOD IS THE AUTHOR OF PEACE. SATAN IS THE AUTHOR OF STRIFE.

A. JESUS GAVE US THE GIFT OF PEACE

B. THE WORLD CANNOT GIVE THIS PEACE

III. PEACE IN THE FAMILY - 4 REAL THINGS WE NEED

A. 4 REAL THINGS A HUSBAND NEEDS

1. BE RESPECTED- KING OF THE HILL. WHAT HE SAYS MATTERS ABOVE OTHERS

2. BE ADMIRER - APPROVES OF HIM. ACCEPTS HIM AS HE IS.

3. BE APPLAUDED - MASSAGE HIS EGO. PRAISE HIM FOR THE GOOD THINGS HE DOES.

4. BE DESIRED - WIFE TO DESIRE HIM SEXUALLY. HE NEED HER TO M

Ephesians 5:33 TLB

So again I say, a man must love his wife as a part of himself; and the wife must see to it that she deeply respects her husband-obeying, praising, and honoring him.

B. 4 REAL THINGS A WIFE NEEDS

1. BE SECURE-FEEL SAFE IN THE RELATIONSHIP. EVERYTHING MATRIMONIAL, SPIRITUALLY, FINANCIALLY, AND MATERIALLY IS GOOD. ALL HER NEEDS ARE MET BY HER GOD & HER HUSBAND. GOD MAKES HER DAY HER HUSBAND PROVIDES, GOVERN & PROTECTS

2. BE HEARD- LISTEN TO HER. HEAR WHAT SHE IS SAYING. GIVE HER UNDIVIDED ATTENTION.

3. BE VALUED- A HELP MATE LIKE HOLY SPIRIT IS OUR HELPER.

APPRECIATE WHAT SHE DOES. WHAT SHE BRING TO THE TABLE.
RECEIVE HER AS THE GIFT SHE IS FROM GOD.

Proverbs 18:22 TLB

The man who finds a wife finds a good thing; she is a blessing to him from the Lord.

4. BE ROMANCED- NEED HIM TO BE ATTENTIVE TO HER. WANT HIM LOOKING, TOUCHING, CARESSING, KISSING HER.
WANTS TO FEEL SHE IS PHYSICALLY ATTRACTIVE TO HER HUSBAND (SEXY).

Proverbs 5:15-21 TPT

My son, share your love with your wife alone. Drink from her well of pleasure and from no other. [16] Why would you have sex with a stranger or with anyone other than her? [17] Reserve this pleasure for you and her alone and not with another. [18] Your sex life will be blessed as you take joy and pleasure in the wife of your youth. [19] Let her breasts be your satisfaction, and let her embrace intoxicate you at all times. Be continually delighted and ravished with her love! [20] My son, why would you be exhilarated by an adulteress- by embracing a woman who is not yours? [21] For God sees everything you do and his eyes are wide open as he observes every single habit you have.

C. 4 REAL THINGS A CHILD NEEDS

1. BE LOVED- FEEL WANTED. SPEND QUALITY TIME WITH THEM.
INVOLVED IN THEIR WORLD.

2. BE AFFIRMED- PLEASED WITH THEM. ACCEPT THEM FOR WHO THEY ARE.

3. BE SECURE- PARENTS LOVING ONE ANOTHER GIVES CHILDREN A SENSE OF SECURITY.

4. BE UNDERSTOOD- CARE ABOUT WHAT I HAVE TO SAY. UNDERSTAND WHAT I THINK.

WE CAN SHUT THE DOOR ON STRIFE WHEN WE PURPOSE TO MINISTER TO THE NEEDS OF THE MEMBERS OF OUR FAMILY

Philippians 2:3 KJVS

Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves.

Philippians 2:3-4 ERV

In whatever you do, don't let selfishness or pride be your guide. Be humble, and honor others more than yourselves. [4] Don't be interested only in your own life, but care about the lives of others too.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. HOW HAVE YOU DEALT WITH STRIFE IN YOUR FAMILY (HUSBAND & WIFE, CHILDREN)

2. WHICH OF THE FOUR NEEDS ARE YOU GOING TO ADDRESS CONCERNING

YOUR SPOUSE

YOUR CHILDREN