

# PULL TOGETHER WHEN YOU'RE PULLED APART

I Promise Part 5, Mark 3:25

"If a house is divided against itself, that house will not be able to stand." Mark 3:25 (NASB)

#### I. WHAT CAUSES CONFLICT?

"What is the source of quarrels and conflicts among you? Is not the source your pleasures that wage war in your members?" James 4:1 (NASB)

- \* "My Way" = means I fight 'til I win and you give in
- \* "No Way" = means I back away from all conflict
- \* "Your Way" = means I always give in
- \* "Half Way" = means we compromise/I win some & lose some
- \* "Our Way" = means we work out mutual goals together

### II. HOW TO PULL TOGETHER WHEN PULLED APART

#### 1. CALL ON GOD FOR HELP.

Pray about it before you talk to the other person. Ventilate Vertically before Horizontally.

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

# 2. CONFESS MY PART OF THE CONFLICT

Ask yourself, "how much of this is my fault before you start accusing/blaming.

ADVICE: To keep your marriage brimming with love in the loving cup, when you're wrong admit it. And when you're right shut-up!

"Why do you look at the speck that is in your brother's eye, but do not notice the log that is in your own eye? You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your brother's eye." Mt. 7:3,5 (NASB) Ask yourself, "am I being unrealistic; insensitive; too demanding?

MARRIAGE IS A LIFE-LONG PROCESS OF OVERCOMING YOUR DIFFERENCES.

# 3. CONVENE A PEACE CONFERENCE

Conflict is seldom resolved accidentally.

"Therefore if you are presenting your offering at the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you,  $^{24}$ leave your offering there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother, and then come and present your offering." Mt. 5:23-24 (NASB)

### **Important Steps On How To Do A Peace Conference:**

- #1 Choose the right time =timing is everything
- #2 Choose the right place = a place where you can be alone & uninterrupted
- #3 Come with a positive attitude = ready to reconcile; ready to compromise

### 4. CUT OUT ABUSIVE LANGUAGE

"Let no unwholesome word proceed from your mouth, but only such a word as is good for edification according to the need of the moment, so that it will give grace to those who hear." Eph. 4:29 (NASB)

"Do not use harmful words, but only helpful words, the kind that build up and provide what is needed..." Eph. 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." Col. 3:8 (Ph)

### 5. CONSIDER MY MATE'S PERSPECTIVE

"Each of us is to please his neighbor for his good, to his edification." Rom. 15:2 (NASB)

"do not merely <u>look out</u> for your own personal interests, but also for the interests of others." Philippians. 2:4 (NASB)

#### 6. CONCENTRATE ON RECONCILIATION,

#### **NOT RESOLUTION**

"Reconciliation" - to reestablish the relationship

"Resolution" - to resolve every issue

"But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, <u>reasonable</u>, full of mercy and good fruits,..." James 3:17 (NASB) SUGGESTIONS: Professional Help & Help From God

"Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts,..." Col. 3:15 (NASB)