

## CouplesInBloom.com – How To Fight

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**God gave us a three letter word** which is central to **how we are supposed to fight**. Until we get to Heaven, life is a type of battle field ⇒ 2 Timothy 2:1-4. The common thread of this little word (not necessarily the word itself) appears in all these Scriptures:

- Revelation 12:11 ⇒ They overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by of the Word of their testimony.
- John 10:10 ⇒ The thief does not come except that he may steal, and kill, and destroy. I came that they may have life and may have it abundantly.
- Acts 17 (esp. v.17, 19, 34) ⇒ ...Paul disputed philosophers in the synagogue; was seized and taken to Aeropagus; introduced them to the “unknown God”.

**Do you know the word yet?** Here are a few more clues... related to accomplishments:

- Mark 10:45 ⇒ For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many.
- Ephesians 4:11 ⇒ Indeed He gave some to be apostles; and some prophets; and some evangelists; and some pastors and teachers.
- Genesis 1:1 ⇒ In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

The word is **add**. Spiritually fighting God’s way **adds** righteousness. Human fighting **subtracts** by killing, stealing, and destroying people and things. Spiritual fighting is conquest without human weapons ⇒ 2 Corinthians 10:4. Human fighting is quarrelling.

**How does this apply to having a fight in a marriage?** Use **MONEY** as an example: Two spouses disagree about **MONEY**. They have separate bank accounts, they rarely agree on managing it, and they have different ideas on how to spend it. These symptoms are human fighting. **To say No, they just agree to disagree is wrong** because their money has two masters and therefore will fail ⇒ Matthew 6:24. Their money cannot go in two different ways at once. **To say Yes, it can because they divide it is wrong again** because it is still *divided* ⇒ 1 Corinthians 1:10. Dividing anything makes it less, which is failure.

**Conquest resolves issues with righteousness.** In this case, it’s **unity**. Christian spouses have equal voice in marriage issues, and God’s heart unifies their decisions. If they exhaust all Godly counsel and *still* disagree, God says the husband decides and that He will reward the wife for following him, *even if she* had the right answer on the issue. **God** works all things out and they remain unified **because** God is the Lord of their lives.

**Quarrelling suppresses issues by division**, only to recur later. **No unity** occurs, the problem remains, and they will likely say bad things to each other **because** that approach is *wrong*: it uses themselves as the standard which is the root problem in the first place.

**The best lesson on how to fight is between God and us, the Bride of Christ.** Jesus Christ took our side while we were still His enemies! In true conquest, He solved our problem without hurting us, plus made us His best friend (Bride). Likewise, our goal is unity with our spouse, not winning a fight. **God’s Word settles our issues** and **God’s heart directs our problem resolution process.** **This is how God wants us to fight.**

Practice takes time; that’s okay. Just keep up the good fight. ♥ Loren & Kathy Falzone