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From the beginning of creation, God created man to live in union with one another, "for it was not good for man to live alone..." he needed "a helper suitable for him" (Genesis 2:18). Therefore, Eve was created and the two became as one. Together, only by the grace of God, children were granted to them and their family grew and multiplied.

The idea of a family unit has been around since the beginning of time. It is the core that makes each individual who they are. For "there is no institution like the family when it comes to nourishing and strengthening ones life." That is why Satan attacks this institution with full force. For when the core is spoiled, there is very little bounteous fruit.

To stand up against Satan's attacks, we literally need to "fight" for our families. The number one tool that the devil uses to ruin families is that of conflict. Since each member of a family has different desires, gifts, needs, and goals conflicts do arise and may seem impossible to resolve. However, it is only by meeting these challenges head on do we ruin Satan's plan. Then, we are rewarded with many godly characteristics such as: happiness, the ability to adapt to and accept others, the ability to work together, and extend forgiveness.

In order to solve conflicts, the two most important things we need to do are to be a good listener and communicator. This involves maintaining eye contact, not interrupting, asking questions, putting yourself in the other person's position, and being aware of your body language. Also conflicts are more readily resolved when one is specific (doesn't generalize) when airing complaints, one addresses the positive change they wish for, when one takes responsibility for own words and actions, and when the conflict is discussed at a time when all are not distracted or tired.

Things we should not do when in a conflict include: "sand bagging," which means bringing up past grievances; putting the other person's feelings or ideas down; attacking a characteristic or being sarcastic; and/or having a hidden agenda.

Maintaining a successful family relationship is hard work. Only through prayer, love, laughter, acceptance of ideas and feelings, and awareness of others emotional and physical needs will there be a foundation strong enough to withstand the enemies attacks. With such a foundation, conflicts can be seen as an opportunity to build up godly character within each family member instead of tearing it down.

What an awesome gift, the gift of family, our Creator has given us. May God grant each of us the wisdom we need to "fight" for it.