



## Part 2: Fighting Fair

### Big Idea

We all fight – but, if we seek God and allow Him to teach us how to fight fair, we will not only save our relationships from destruction but we will also experience God's blessing. So, the question isn't *if* we fight, but *how* we fight. *Healthy relationships fight for resolution; unhealthy relationships fight to win.* Here are three rules we can use to fight fair: Stop and listen; guard our words; and manage our anger. If we decide during non-conflict times to use these rules in times of conflict, our relationships can thrive as God desires. *In times of conflict, we will fight for unity, not for personal victory!*

*My dear brothers and sisters, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry, because human anger does not produce the righteousness that God desires.*

-James 1:19-20

### Discussion Questions

- Discuss how being a good listener would affect the way you fight fair. What steps can you take to become a better listener?
- Making firm decisions during times of peace can help us manage conflict. What have you taken off the table that allows you to fight fair and what do you still need to take off the table?
- Read Ephesians 4:26-27. Discuss practical steps you have in place or need to put in place to resolve conflict in your relationships.

### Prayer Focus

Pray for God's blessing and peace on each group member and their relationships. Pray for a spirit of wisdom and unity to be present.

### Next Step

Pastor Keith emphasized the importance of active listening. Practice an active listening technique this week by repeating back what you are hearing when in conversation with your family, friends and coworkers.

### Leader Tip

Remember to pray for your group members by name every day. Ask your members how you can pray for them and keep a list so you can see how God is answering their prayers.