



## Fight For, Not Against

Oct. 13, 2019

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**Q—What are you fighting for?**

**Today's Core Truth: Let's fight "for", not "against."**

*For I am already being poured out like a drink offering, and the time for my departure is near. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.* 2 Timothy 4:6–7 (NIV)

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*"The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."* Luke 4:18–19 (NIV)

*"A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."* John 13:34–35 (NIV)

Acts 26:9–18 (NIV)

### **A few thoughts to start off this Good Fight series:**

⇒ **In fighting the good fight, make sure you fight the \_\_\_\_\_ fight.**

James 4:1–2 (NIV)

Galatians 2:20 (NIV)

⇒ **In fighting the good fight, make sure you fight a \_\_\_\_\_ fight.**

Matthew 18:15–17 (NIV)

⇒ **In fighting the good fight, make sure you don't \_\_\_\_\_ the fight.**

Galatians 6:9 (NIV)

# NEXTsteps : I will fight for \_\_\_\_\_ this week.

## Q—What is your fight?

ANSWER KEY: right, fair, give up



### Study & Discussion for Your Next Small Group

Theme: A Fair Fight

**Share Together:** How was conflict reconciled in your house growing up, and what have you learned from it in how you handle conflict today?

**Reflect together:** What impacted you the most

from Sunday's message?

**Read Together:** Matthew 18:15-19

**Discuss Together:**

- Jesus shares practical steps in reconciling relationships, saying that if someone has sinned against you, take the first step to “show him his fault” privately. What are your thoughts and feelings about doing this?
- Is this approach to conflict common today in our culture? Why or why not?
- How do you do confront without being judgmental? How would you feel if someone confronted you this way?
- What is the purpose of the second step - bringing others into the conflict - when a private conversation fails? Why is it wise to do this, from your experience? What is the risk?
- What is the purpose of the third step of reconciliation, and how do you imagine this being accomplished in a healthy and productive way?
- What is the final step if a person does not respond in humility? How do you see that drastic step being redemptive?
- Overall, what do you think are the greatest concerns or risks in taking steps of reconciliation? What are the negative results when conflict is left unresolved in relationships?
- Read John 13:34-35. How is love the greatest motivation and guide in reconciling relationships?
- What is one thought you heard in this discussion, that will be valuable in helping you resolve future conflict?
- What unreconciled situation are you facing, for which you need wisdom and courage, that we can pray for?

**Pray Together:** Take time to share how God has answered prayer and any prayer requests you have today.