Anatomy of a good confession

A: Confess you **a**ction, heart **a**ttitude; **a**sk for forgiveness.

B: Use **b**iblical language when you confess.

C: Articulate the **c**ost of your sin as best you can.

D: Explain what you're going to **d**o to repent.

Course Schedule

Class 1: The Purpose, Power, and Paradox of Marriage
Class 2: The Shape of Marriage (Gen. 2, Eph. 5:22-33)
Class 3: Marriage and Sin (Gen. 3)
Class 4: Beauty in a Fallen World (1 Pe. 3:1-7)
Class 5: Grace in Marriage
Class 6: Communication
Class 7: Conflict
Class 8: Sex in Marriage
Class 9: Money in Marriage
Class 10: Children and Marriage
Class 11: Infertility
Class 12: The End of the Dream?
Class 13: Panel Discussion

A few good books on communication in marriage to read on your own…

- *Resolving Conflict* by Lou Priolo
- *Love that Lasts* by Gary & Betsy Riccuci
- *Marriage* by Paul Tripp
- *War of Words* by Paul Tripp

If you have questions or comments on this class, please contact Jamie Dunlop at jamie.dunlop@capbap.org or Mark Kalenak at mdkalenak@gmail.com.

Marriage Core Seminar, Class #7
Conflict

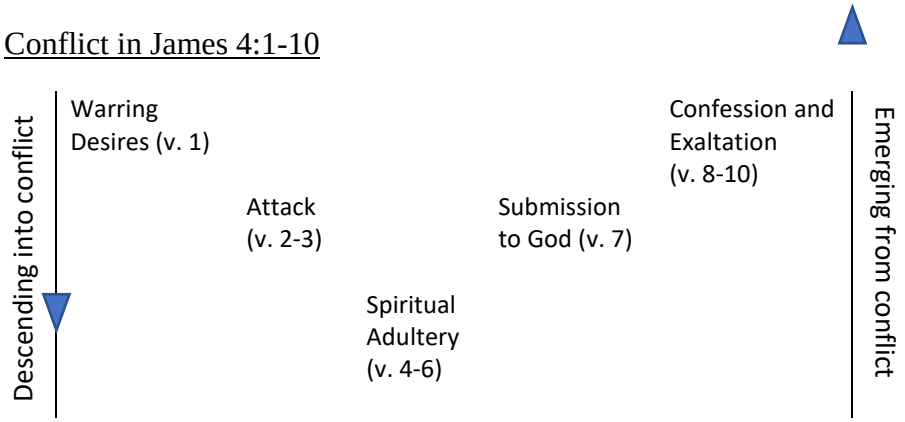
I. Introduction

Why do we fight with the people we love the most?

II. Biblical Goals of Conflict

- Engaging in conflict in a God-honoring way
- Grow in wisdom
- Pursue peace

Conflict in James 4:1-10



III. The Source of Conflict: Warring Desires

"What causes quarrels and what causes fights among you?"

How to seek understand in the midst of conflict:

- Listen
- Ask questions
- Clarify assumptions

IV. Temptation in Conflict: Self-Protective Attack

"You desire and do not have, so you murder. You covet and cannot obtain, so you fight and quarrel. You do not have, because you do not ask. You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly to spend it on your passions."

A. Self-Protection

Husbands

Wives

B. Attack

Self-control in our speech (Prov. 10:19, 11:11)

- Don't respond in kind (Prov. 15:1)
- Pause the fight (Prov. 16:32)
- Rely on the Spirit (Eph. 4:22)

V. The Turning Point in Conflict

"You adulterous people! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God. Or do you suppose it is to no purpose that the Scripture says, 'He yearns jealously over the spirit that he has made to dwell in us'? But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, 'God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.' Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you."

The turning point: "submit" to God.

Implications:

- Wherever you see an opportunity to obey God, obey.
- Don't indulge your sin (Gal. 5:13).
- Hit the pause button.
- Ask for help.

VI. Resolution of Conflict

"Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. Be wretched and mourn and weep. Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to gloom. Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you."

An amazing promise from God if we draw near to him.