

Be Real
August 16, 2015
“Firefighting - Dealing with Conflict”

1. Unresolved Conflicts in our relationships can become raging fires.

- **A Smolder - A slow burning fire in an unseen place.**
- **Soot - Can release toxic fumes when certain things are burned.**
- **Flashpoints - In the search for more oxygen, explosions can occur, resulting in more damage and spreading fires**

... See how great a forest is set aflame by such a small fire!

James 3:5 (NASB)

2. A good conflict can move you forward.

“When you pass through the waters, I will be with you;
And through the rivers, they will not overflow you.
When you walk through the fire, you will not be scorched,
Nor will the flame burn you.”

Isaiah 43:2 (NASB)

For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers,
against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against
the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places.

Ephesians 6:12 (NASB)

3. You have to recognize your responsibility!

Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of
mind regard one another as more important than yourselves; do not
merely look out for your own personal interests, but also for the
interests of others.

Philippians 2:3-4 (NASB)

4. The language of conflict is more important than the content.

Those who guard their mouths and their tongues keep themselves
from calamity.

Proverbs 21:23 (NIV)

Fools give full vent to their rage, but the wise bring calm in the end.

Proverbs 29:11 (NIV)

A gentle answer turns away wrath, But a harsh word stirs up anger.

Proverbs 15:1 (NASB)

5. 5 ways to fight right!

• **Fight with Encouragement**

Therefore if there is any encouragement in Christ, if there is any
consolation of love, if there is any fellowship of the Spirit, if any
affection and compassion, make my joy complete by being of the
same mind, maintaining the same love, united in spirit, intent on
one purpose.

Philippians 2:1-2 (NASB)

• **Fight with Kindness**

Or do you think lightly of the riches of His kindness and tolerance
and patience, not knowing that the kindness of God leads you to
repentance?

Romans 2:4 (NASB)

• **Fight with Understanding**

Above all, keep fervent in your love for one another,
because love covers a multitude of sins.

1 Peter 4:8 (NASB)

• **Fight with Long-Suffering**

• **Fight with Truth and Love**

but speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in all aspects
into Him who is the head, even Christ,

Ephesians 4:15 (NASB)

Announcements:

Aug 16th - Growth Track 1.0 - Learn more about Awaken and how to get
connected!

August 20th - Awaken Worship Auditions

August 30th - Awaken Kids Move up Day

Sept. 6th - Awaken Car Show - In Front of City Hall