

## THE STRIFE-LESS LOVE WALK

### A. What is STRIFE?

1. People describe as: conflict, contentiousness, difficulty, anger, confusion, arguments, misunderstandings, discomfort, irritation, rage, change, the devil.
2. Webster---STRIFE:
  - a. The act of striving or vying with one another; contention; competition.
  - b. A quarrel; struggle; conflict; discord (synonym).
3. Webster---CONTENTION:
  - a. Verbal strife; argument; controversy; dispute; quarrel; altercation.
  - b. Strife; struggle; contest; competition.
  - c. Synonym=conflict; discord.

### B. What are the Dynamics of STRIFE?

1. Common thread of STRIFE.
  - a. Hot temper stirs up strife. Prov 15:18
  - b. Perversity sows strife & whispering separates friends. Prov 16:28
  - c. Wrath stirs up strife. Prov 29:22
  - d. Quarrelsome man inflames strife. Prov 26:21
  - e. Greediness stirs up strife. Prov 28:25
  - f. Forcing of wrath brings forth strife. Prov 30:33
2. Characteristics of STRIFE.
  - a. Selfishness, jealousy, greed. Luke 22:24
  - b. Jealousy, contention, confusion, every evil work. James 3:14-16
  - c. Envy, jealousy, divisions. 1 Cor 3:3 AmpC
  - d. Idolatry, envy, jealousy, anger, selfishness, divisions, dissensions. Gal 5:19-21 AmpC
  - e. Meddlesome. Prov 26:17

### 3. Results of STRIFE.

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|---|-----------------|
| a. Loves transgression & invites destruction. | Prov 17:19 AmpC |
| b. Thief comes to steal, kill, and destroy,   | John 10:10      |
| c. Reproach and abuse.                        | Prov 22:10      |
| d. Separates even close friends.              | Prov 17:9       |

### C. How do we stop STRIFE?

#### 1. No fuel = No fire.

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| a. Stop the trickle.  | Prov 17:14 AmpC |
| b. Don't be a fool!!! | Prov 20:3 NKJV  |
| c. No wood = no fire. | Prov 26:20 NKJV |
| d. Slow to anger.     | Prov 15:18      |

#### 2. Without offense.

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|---|-----------------|
| a. Sincere and without offense.                   | Phil 1:10       |
| b. Conscience without offense toward God and men. | Acts 24:16      |
| c. Avoid divisions and offenses.                  | Rom 16:17       |
| d. Do not hinder by giving offense.               | 1Cor 10:32 AmpC |

#### 3. Trust in the Lord.

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| a. Put your trust in the Lord.                 | Prov 28:25     |
| b. Imitate Christ.                             | 1 Cor 11:1     |
| c. Live and conduct yourselves honorably.      | Rom 13:13 AmpC |
| d. Kingdom of God = righteousness, joy, peace. | Rom 14:17      |
| e. Regard others as better than yourself.      | Phil 2:3       |
| f. Speak only good.                            | Luke 6:45      |

#### 4. God's way of doing things.

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| a. Stir up the gift of God.                                  | 2 Tim 1:6         |
| b. Pray in the Holy Ghost; keep in the Love of God.          | Jude:20-21        |
| c. Love from pure heart, good conscience, and sincere faith. | 1 Tim 1:5 NKJV    |
| d. Cover and forgive offenses, seeking love.                 | Prov 17:9         |
| e. Exercise the Fruit of the Spirit.                         | Gal 5:22-23 AmpC  |
| f. Love never fails.   | 1 Cor 13:4-8 AmpC |