Fighting for Your Family Series - The Enemy Within Your House

Mark 3:25

7/13/25

The past 5 weeks we’ve learned how to “Fight for Our Families”: Show the umbrella we saw the 1st week of the biblical order of the family!

* Week 1- Rebuilding the Foundation of Family
	+ In this 1st week we called Christian parents, Christian families to stand back up and stand firm, to fight for our families in a world that seems to be falling apart. We talked about the urgent need to rebuild and re-establish the foundation of the family and how to build it...upon biblical principles
		- We must recommit to Gods Biblical Foundation & Design of order in the Family.
		- We must pray for change—starting in our own hearts.
		- We must love our and respect our spouses and children intentionally.
		- We must stand firm against cultural lies and protect our children from them.
		- Our assignment was to read 1 Corinthians 13 daily as a family, to help rebuild the foundation on God's truth.
		- We closed that week with a call to recommit to God's design for the family, pray for change, love intentionally, and stand firm against cultural lies.
* Week 2 – Fathers Controlling the Temperature of Your Homes
	+ Father's Role:
		- Fathers are crucial in the family. Fathers should be like thermostats, actively gauging and adjusting the atmosphere of the home. Fathers are called to create a safe, supported, and Christlike environment.
	+ Spiritual Leadership:
		- Fathers are to be spiritual leaders, representing God to their families by providing biblical instruction, Fathers must be emotionally and spiritually engaged in the lives of their family members.
		- They should stand up against attacks on the family and take responsibility for what happens in the home.
		- Fathers are accountable for the spiritual leadership within the home and must ensure their family is cared for
* Week 3 – Maintaining a Strong Christian Marriage
	+ **Make Christ the Center of Your Marriage**: A Christ-centered marriage brings unity, purpose, and peace.
	+ **Be Intentional in Your Effort**: Love is a daily choice and action. Healthy marriages are built through daily actions like communicating openly, showing appreciation, listening with empathy, forgiving quickly, and investing time in each other
	+ **Fight Against Individual Selfishness**: Real love fights pride, bitterness, and unforgiveness.
	+ **Communicate with Grace and Truth**: Words can heal or harm.
	+ **Commit to Forgiveness**: Forgiveness is a weapon against the enemy. It involves releasing your spouse from the debt they owe you and cutting the rope of resentment
	+ **Protect Your Marriage**: Protecting your marriage means being proactive and guarding against emotional, spiritual, or physical compromise
* Week 4 - The Parent & Child Connection
* We looked at the challenges and responsibilities of parenting in today's society, emphasizing the importance of raising children according to biblical principles rather than societal standards. We highlighted the pressures children face from social media and social expectations and the need for parents to provide clear guidance & biblical discipline based on the Word of God.

This series has been a tough series to maybe hear, but it is one that we must truly take to heart if we desire to fight and protect our families! There is a very real enemy that desires to destroy your family, your marriage, your relationship with your children, and will go after your children’s lives if he can’t get to you!

We often think the enemy is out “there” somewhere – the government, the culture, or people who oppose us. But the most dangerous enemy is the one who might already inside your home this very morning. Jesus in Mark 3:25, warned that a house divided against itself cannot stand. Today, we want to expose the enemies that very well maybe within our homes that threaten our unity, peace, and purpose as a family!

**I. The Enemy of Unforgiveness**

* Ephesians 4:31-32

*“Get rid of all bitterness, rage, anger, harsh words, and slander, as well as all types of evil behavior. 32 Instead, be kind to each other, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, just as God through Christ has forgiven you.”*

This isn’t just a scripture for our friends or co-workers, or “church-folk”. This is speaking to husbands, wives, dads, moms, in-laws, etc....

* Unforgiveness creates bitterness that poisons the atmosphere of your home.
* Hurt people hurt people.

When fighting for our family, unforgiveness is a dangerous enemy that divides and destroys from within. Unforgiveness keeps wounds open, hardens hearts, and blocks God’s blessings in our homes.

Forgiveness is not about excusing wrong but about releasing hurt and letting God heal and restore. Remember in our speaking to a strong marriage that forgiveness involves releasing your spouse from the debt they owe you and cutting the rope of resentment and bitterness.

You cannot fight for unity, love, and peace in your family while holding grudges and keeping score. To overcome unforgiveness in your family:

* Remember how much God has forgiven you.
* Choose to let go of bitterness daily — forgiveness is a decision.
* Pray for those who have hurt you, especially those within your family and home.

Unforgiveness weakens the fight for your family, but forgiveness releases God’s power to restore and heal. Don’t let the enemy win — forgive and let God bring victory in your home.

\**Who in your family do you need to forgive today? Spouse? Child? Parent? Yourself?*

**II. The Enemy of Pride**

* Proverbs 16:18

*“Pride goes before destruction, and haughtiness before a fall.*

* James 4:6

*“God resists the proud but gives grace to the humble.”*

Pride says, “I’m always right.”It refuses to apologize or seek counsel.Pride destroys marriages, silences children, and closes the door to God’s blessings.Pride is not just a bad habit — it is an enemy of God’s work in our lives.When fighting for our family — in prayer, in love, in leadership — pride is a silent enemy that can and will sabotage our efforts.

* Pride makes us unwilling to admit when we’re wrong, too stubborn to listen, and too focused on ourselves to serve our spouse, children, or loved ones.
* We cannot win spiritual battles in our family if we’re more concerned with being right than being righteous.

Humility, on the other hand, invites God’s help and models Christlike love to our family. To defeat pride while fighting for our family:

* Confess when you fall short — own your mistakes.
* Pray for a humble heart — depend on God, not your own strength.
* Put your family’s needs ahead of your ego — love sacrificially.

You can’t fight for your family and fight to protect your pride at the same time. Lay down your pride, pick up humility, and let God fight for you and through you.

*\*Ask yourself, “Is my pride blocking God’s work in my home?” True strength is found in humility.*

**III. The Enemy of Distraction**

* Joshua 24:15b

*But if you refuse to serve the Lord, then choose today whom you will serve.... But as for me and my family, we will serve the Lord.”*

* Matthew 6:33

*“But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.”*

When fighting for our family, one of the greatest enemies is distraction — being so busy or preoccupied that we neglect what truly matters. The enemy uses distractions — work, hobbies, screens, even good things — to pull our focus away from God and our family...even ministry can distract us from cultivating relationships at home. Truth is, we can win battles everywhere else in the world and yet lose at home if we don’t stay focused on our priorities.

The enemy uses distraction to weaken spiritual leadership in the house. Too busy to read, to pray, to go to church. To overcome distraction in the fight for your family:

* Put God first and let Him set your priorities.
* Be fully present — give your time and attention to your family.
* Cut out or limit things that pull you away from your calling at home.

You can’t fight effectively if you’re looking everywhere but where the battle is. Fix your eyes on God, focus on your family, and don’t let distractions steal your victory. Ask yourself today, *\*“What is stealing your focus from your spouse, children, and personal walk with God?*

**IV. The Enemy of Silence**

* Deuteronomy 6:6-7

*6 And you must commit yourselves wholeheartedly to these commands that I am giving you today. 7 Repeat them again and again to your children. Talk about them when you are at home and when you are on the road, when you are going to bed and when you are getting up.*

Silence can be a deadly enemy when fighting for our family — when we refuse to pray, to speak truth, or to stand up for what is right in our homes. The enemy wins ground in our homes when we stay quiet about sin, avoid hard conversations, or fail to declare God’s Word over our family.

The enemy thrives in homes where no one prays together, no one reads the Word aloud, and no one speaks life.

God calls us to be watchmen — to pray, to bless, to correct in love, and to speak life into our homes and family members. To defeat the enemy of silence:

* Pray aloud and boldly over your family.
* Speak truth in love, even when it’s uncomfortable.
* Declare God’s promises over your home daily.

Your family needs your voice — in prayer, in love, and in truth. Don’t let silence give the enemy room. Open your mouth and fight for your home!

\*Make a commitment to break the silence – pray, bless, and declare God’s Word daily in your home.

Closing:

The greatest enemies are not outside trying to break in, but they maybe already inside trying to break your family apart. But today, this morning, God has given you the choice to evict these enemies by:

* Forgiving freely
* Walking in humility
* Focusing on what/who matters
* Speaking life into your family consistently

This morning as we’ve over the past few weeks looked at how to “Fight for our Families”, I want to ask each husband/dad, wife/mom, parent, brother, sister, “Is your home worth fighting for?”

If so then,

* **Are you willing to stand firm against the shifting values of the world and build your family on the unshakable foundation of biblical principles?**
* **Are you ready to guard your spouse’s heart and trust God to equip you with everything you need to honor the vows you made on your wedding day, so you can have a strong, Christ-centered marriage?**
* **Are you willing to love, support, encourage, discipline, and instill biblical truths in your children, so that even as they grow, they will hold fast to the godly values you’ve taught them?**
* **Are you willing to make personal changes, turn off, or remove anything in your life home that distracts from Christ, making Him the true center of your family life?**

**As we “Fight for Our Family” with Christ as our lead, watch God bring restoration unity and purpose back into your family just as many of you’ve been praying so long for!**

Closing Prayer:

Father, we ask You today to reign in our homes, no matter what it takes. Give us courage and strength to fight for our families like we’ve never fought before. Let us stand firm against an enemy that desires our families broken, destroyed, and even abolished!
Give us wisdom to set godly standards, to build up our families on your Word and not to deviate from it, but encourage it to all who are in our family and home. Help us to clean up our lives, to speak truth in love, and to redeem the time.

The time to change is now. The past is the past, so Lord help us do better for our families starting today. Repair broken relationships between spouse, between the parents and their children, between siblings. Nothing is impossible for you Lord

Lord, reveal to us the enemies we have allowed into our homes. Give us the strength to forgive, the humility to apologize, the discipline to focus on You, and the courage to speak life over our families. Let our homes be filled with Your presence, peace, and unity.

In Jesus’ name, amen.”