



QUALITY *Life* SERVICES™

Devotional 7-19-2021

Everyone wants to be right! Right? At times, we have trouble agreeing with each other. I like the commercial with Tony the Tiger and Shaquille O'Neal, they can't agree on much of anything. Tony thinks he can dunk on Shaq, Shaq thinks he loves Frosted Flakes more than Tony and they are at odds over who has the deepest voice. Finally, Tony says, "Aww, you're cute when you're wrong!" I don't mind being cute, but I especially don't like being wrong.

One of the main weapons the enemy uses against us is conflict. If the devil can get us to disagree, quarrel, and build resentment towards each other, then he knows he can bring us down. There are three things that causes us to have strife in our lives, they may just surprise you: our lips, our pride, and our opinions.

With our lips, we have the power to say the wrong words at the wrong time. Those words can start a forest fire of arguments. The more wrong words we use the bigger the fire gets. One way to stop a fire is to remove the fuel. Our pride will demand us to have the last word, a proud heart refuses to be quiet. But the bible says it leads to destruction (see Prov. 16:18). Lastly, our opinions will get us into an argument because we're trying to convince others that our way is the only way. When we realize we have more to learn we can stop passing out our own opinions, and begin to gain the knowledge we need.

Just like a small leak can rupture the wall of a dam our quarreling can destroy our relationships. We need to be aware of those times when strife gets the best of us. Don't let Satan use those things to cause conflict with others. Make a decision to honor God and others by resisting strife and instead pursue unity and understanding.

Let's pray: Lord God help us to be on guard against the strife that tries to get into our lives. May our words and our opinions glorify You. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Proverbs 16:18, "Pride goes before destruction, a haughty spirit before a fall."

Proverbs 17:14, "Starting a quarrel is like breaching a dam; so drop the matter before a dispute breaks out."

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