



Fight Club 3:: *Choosing Sides* :: Andy Stanley

INTRODUCTION

One of the most tragic stories in the Bible is that of David and Absalom. Absalom longed for his father's approval. David longed for the respect of his son. In the end, war came between the two, and one lost his life, while the other lost any chance for reconciliation. In this session, we'll explore the dynamics of family relationships and why some battles are worth fighting.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Do you have any estranged relationships in your family (mother/father/child/sibling)?
2. Read 2 Samuel 13. Despite all that transpired, David, as a father, still longed to have a restored relationship with his son (v. 39). What is it in us that longs for connection with our family?
3. What are some of the barriers that keep us apart from those we love?
4. Read 2 Samuel 14. Despite all that transpired, Absalom, as a son, still wanted to reconnect with his father (v. 33). How have you tried to restore your broken family relationships?
5. Why is it important to fight for your family relationships?
6. Read 2 Samuel 18. David and Absalom never pushed past the pain, hurt, and betrayal. They never reconciled their relationship as a father and a son. What is at stake in your parent/child/family relationships? What is hindering you?

THINK ABOUT IT

It is tempting to give up and throw in the gloves, but as Christians we aren't given that option. You can give up on your relationship with your father/mother/child/sibling when your Heavenly Father gives up on his relationship with you. Knowing this, will you get back in the ring?

WHAT WILL YOU DO?

What will you do this week to engage in relationships with your family?

CHANGING YOUR MIND

Like water spilled on the ground, which cannot be recovered, so we must die. But God does not take away life; instead, he devises ways so that a banished person may not remain estranged from him. 2 Samuel 14:14