



# NewsLetter

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## Identifying the Danger Zones in Your Marriage. VOL.2

How would you characterize your marriage relationship? Is your relationship in a relatively good place, or are things a little shakv?

Do you see any danger signs that trouble you?

### How do you know if you are entering a danger zone?

3. When conflicts are left unresolved. The problem with unresolved conflicts is that they are a great stumbling block to real oneness in your marriage. Each conflict that you allow to be swept under the rug will become a brick in a wall that blocks any real companionship and will ultimately hinder your entire relationship.

### Why are conflicts allowed to remain unresolved in a marriage?

The reasons are simple according to Scripture; however, they are also very ingrained within our hearts. When you allow selfishness, pride, and stubborn self-will to rule in your heart, you will be kept from taking the biblical action required to resolve any conflict (Prov. 28:25) (James 3:16).

### What can you do to remove these hindrances?

(a) Humble yourself before God and ask Him to give you a willing heart to obey His commands in reference to each unresolved conflict in your marriage (1 Peter 5:5-7).

b) Go to your mate as quickly as possible and lovingly begin a dialogue about each unresolved issue (Matt. 5:23-25). Remember, the longer you wait, the harder your heart will get (Heb. 3:7-8).

(c) Pray together and ask God for the power of His Spirit to do what you've agree upon (James 5:16). Don't get robbed by your pride and stubbornness of the blessings you could enjoy in your marriage. Get to work resolving those unsettled issues today!

4. When you engage in a power struggle. Are you in competition with your spouse to see who will control the direction of your family? Do you fight over who will have the final word when decisions are made? Why is a power struggle so dangerous for your marriage? Because when you battle and contend for control you are undermining the very purpose for which you are married, oneness. God has called you to work together as a unit, not struggle to defeat your own teammate. The battle for control is the proof that you are working for yourself and not for the unity and harmony of the relationship.

### How do you solve this dilemma?

1. You must both acknowledge that this power struggle is sin and repent before God because you are violating your call to oneness (Gen. 2:24).

2. You must choose to willingly submit yourselves one to another in the fear of God (Eph. 5:21). Submission is what unifies and makes you one. However, be careful to note that submission is a two-way street.

6. A lack of romance and intimacy. Romance and intimacy with each other are simply the fruit of each of the previous truths.

Obviously, you won't be very romantic with each other if you first aren't friends who enjoy spending time together. Intimacy cannot be achieved without effective communication and energetic conflict resolution. This depth of intimacy requires a spiritual relationship between two people who are not constantly battling over who is in charge.

### Are you in a danger zone right now?

don't wait until there is a new conflict before you begin resolving these issues. Don't allow the frustration to build in your heart to a point where you want to give up.

Seek reconciliation wherever you see these danger signs. Get together with your spouse today and talk over how you can change your relationship for the better.