

## A Marriage Minute™

A simple help to make your marriage just a little better this week.



### **STRIFE ELIMINATOR**

*“A gentle answer turns away wrath,  
but a harsh word stirs up anger”  
.-Proverbs 15:1*

Here is a strife eliminator you can try using that will disarm that person you can't seem to communicate with because they always get defensive, and you just can't seem to have a civil adult-to-adult conversation about anything with them. Try responding to whatever they say, with:

**“You could be right”**

You'll be amazed at how quickly their countenance will change, and they may even be in a position to hear your point of view. Why? Because you affirmed them by acknowledging that they could be right. And in fact, that may be the case! Don't ever think you can discount someone's point of view or pronounce them “wrong” before you've had a chance to hear and process what was said. The apostle Paul taught us to be careful when you think you stand lest you fall (1 Corinthians 10:12). *They could be right!*

Communication is often more about our emotions than logic, and saying “You could be right” has the effect of putting you on “their” side emotionally instead of being in an adversarial, or oppositional stance. Then you can have communication. Amos 3:3 says, “How can two walk together lest they be agreed.” Try it; it works. And you know what? *I could be right!*

**Question for the Both of Us:** Do you think I react to you in a way that makes you feel I'm your opponent instead of your partner?

**Prayer For The Both of Us:** Lord, help us to have the maturity and self-control to acknowledge that our partner just might be right, and we will pause and consider their point of view before we respond.

\*\*\*\*\*

*This Couples Devotional is brought to you by Marriage & Family Savers Ministries. Visit them at [www.marriageandfamily.org](http://www.marriageandfamily.org)*

## A Marriage Minute™

A simple help to make your marriage just a little better this week.



### **STRIFE ELIMINATOR**

*“A gentle answer turns away wrath,  
but a harsh word stirs up anger”  
.-Proverbs 15:1*

Here is a strife eliminator you can try using that will disarm that person you can't seem to communicate with because they always get defensive, and you just can't seem to have a civil adult-to-adult conversation about anything with them. Try responding to whatever they say, with:

**“You could be right”**

You'll be amazed at how quickly their countenance will change, and they may even be in a position to hear your point of view. Why? Because you affirmed them by acknowledging that they could be right. And in fact, that may be the case! Don't ever think you can discount someone's point of view or pronounce them “wrong” before you've had a chance to hear and process what was said. The apostle Paul taught us to be careful when you think you stand lest you fall (1 Corinthians 10:12). *They could be right!*

Communication is often more about our emotions than logic, and saying “You could be right” has the effect of putting you on “their” side emotionally instead of being in an adversarial, or oppositional stance. Then you can have communication. Amos 3:3 says, “How can two walk together lest they be agreed.” Try it; it works. And you know what? *I could be right!*

**Question for the Both of Us:** Do you think I react to you in a way that makes you feel I'm your opponent instead of your partner?

**Prayer For The Both of Us:** Lord, help us to have the maturity and self-control to acknowledge that our partner just might be right, and we will pause and consider their point of view before we respond.

\*\*\*\*\*

*This Couples Devotional is brought to you by Marriage & Family Savers Ministries. Visit them at [www.marriageandfamily.org](http://www.marriageandfamily.org)*