

The Common Thread

JUDE: *Fighting For and Fighting Against*

Community Group Questions

1. What were your general impressions and takeaways from the Jude video shown in this message?
2. Read and discuss **Jude 1:3 NIV**—"Dear friends, although I was very eager to write to you about the salvation we share, I felt compelled to write and urge you to contend for the faith that was once for all entrusted to God's holy people."
3. What do you think it means to "fight harder for your faith than you do against people?" How is our world doing with this concept? What about the Church? What about you?
4. In what ways does the gospel create the right kind of conflict? How can we engage in this conflict as we move toward honesty and growth together?
5. In looking at the wrong kind of conflict that can surround people of faith, explore the following ideas from the Old Testament from Jude's perspective. How does each have religious overtones, but do not fully serve Kingdom purposes or the welfare of fellow believers?
 - a. ***Selfish Shepherds—Ezekiel 34:2 NIV***—"Woe to you shepherds of Israel who only take care of yourselves! Should not shepherds take care of the flock?"
 - b. ***Clouds Without Rain—Proverbs 25:14 NIV***—" Like clouds and wind without rain is one who boasts of gifts never given."
 - c. ***Chaotic Waves—Isaiah 57:20 NIV***—"But the wicked are like the tossing sea, which cannot rest, whose waves cast up mire and mud."