

Introduction:

Have you ever wondered why a little comment can cause such a big argument with your spouse?

Fighting lies with truth

Lie #14 (for women):

My husband's attitude makes no sense to me. He gets so upset when I make even the smallest comment in front of others about something he did wrong.

The truth:

Husbands fear _____, the sense that they don't measure up.
That's why my _____, refusing to _____
publicly, and _____ intimacy build up his confidence.

Key verse:

³ Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, ⁴ not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.

Philippians 2:3-4

Lie #15 (for men):

My wife's attitude makes no sense to me. If I joke about her gaining weight or take notice of other women, she comes unglued.

The truth:

Women fear _____, of losing the relationship. That's why saying "I _____ you," being a good _____, and showing _____ in public build up her sense of belonging.

Key verse:

³ Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, ⁴ not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.

Philippians 2:3-4

Discussion Questions:

1. What small, comment or joke have you noticed causes a major negative reaction from your spouse?
2. Wives – after learning that a man's biggest fear is not measuring up, what's one practical way you can build up your husband's confidence, especially when he's struggling or has failed?
3. Husbands – after learning that a woman's biggest fear is abandonment, what's one specific way you can ensure your wife feels secure and belongs, beyond simply saying "I love you"?
4. How can you distinguish between helpful feedback and a comment that triggers your spouse's core fear?