

CONNECT CHURCH

Connect to a Greater God, to a Greater Community, to a Greater Life

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5 Love Languages

Couples Bible Study

Pathway to a Joy-Filled Relationship

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION – MARRIAGE IS A COVENANT	2
Covenants are Permanent.....	4
Consequences for Breaking a Covenant	5
GET JOY OUT OF YOUR MARRIAGE.....	9
We Need Each Other	11
Satan Attacks Marriages	12
WHAT HAPPENS TO LOVE AFTER THE WEDDING	15
LOVE LANGUAGE #1: WORDS OF AFFIRMATION.....	15
LOVE LANGUAGE #2: QUALITY TIME	16
LOVE LANGUAGE #3: RECEIVING GIFTS	16
LOVE LANGUAGE #4: ACTS OF SERVICE	16
LOVE LANGUAGE #5: PHYSICAL TOUCH.....	16
DISCOVER YOUR PRIMARY LOVE LANGUAGE	16
LOVE! LOVE! LOVE!	16



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INTRODUCTION – MARRIAGE IS A COVENANT

Introduction

Both Marriage and Singlehood were Valuable to God.

1 Corinthians 7: 8 But I say to the unmarried and to widows that it is good for them if they remain even as I. 9 But if they do not have self-control, let them marry; for it is better to marry than to burn with passion.

10 But to the married I give instructions, not I, but the Lord, that the wife should not leave her husband 11 (but if she does leave, she must remain unmarried, or else be reconciled to her husband), and that the husband should not divorce his wife.

Matthew 19:3-11

Covenants are Permanent

If your Marriage is going to Survive and Thrive you got to be committed to the covenant. (Matthew 19:6; 1 Corinthians 7:10)

In the legal system you have a few different types of divorces.

Bigamy – I found out my spouse was already married.

Adultery – Intimacy outside of a covenant marriage between one man and one woman

Abandonment – He/She left and I can't find him

Irreconcilable differences - We can't come to an agreement

Financial disagreement – Money Problems that drove us apart

No-fault divorce - we just don't want to be married anymore

1. Are these Godly reasons for divorce?
 2. Can God heal what may have been broken?
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Psalm 34:18-19; 103:2-5; James 5:14-16;

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Consequences for Breaking a Covenant

To break a covenant could introduce curses and even death on ones life
(Jeremiah 34:18-20; Deuteronomy 28:15-68)

When you have a marriage ceremony you stand before God and you say,
“I promise to have and to hold you, in sickness and in health for better for worst,
For richer or for poor, until death do us part.”
In other words may I die if I do not fulfill this covenant.

Couples Today

There 5 trends that are changing the make-up of marriage

1.

- More and More People are not getting married
- 60% of Couples said they lived together before they got married
- 9 out of 10 young adults say it's a good idea to live together before you get married

*** Influence: Less Commitment to Marriage

Mark 10:9 9 What therefore God has joined together, let no man separate.”

People have been studying this since 1984. If you live together 1st you have less quality communication, less marital satisfaction, not as happy about getting married, Higher rate of depression, higher rate of physical or sexual abuse; **These are not God's best Couples**

2.

- In 2009 there were 707,000 same-sex unions
- Church is responsible for sharing the love of Jesus without compromising the word of God

*** Influence: Less Respect for Marriage

Matthew 19:5 5 and said, ‘For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh’?

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3.

- Couple marries and one already has a child
- Couple has to develop relationship as step parent and with outside parent

*** Influence: Adds different dynamic to Relationship

4.

- He Got Kids
- She Got Kids

*** Influence: Adds multiple dynamics to a Relationship

5.

- New Trend you don't need a husband to have children

*** Influence: Marriage becoming unnecessary & outdated so why stay committed to it

Couples Yesterday

Some people might say the couples yesterday were the best couples. Mama 'dem was together forever. But they may have not been as biblical as we think

1.

Some of grew up and never saw couple love each other. Never saw our parents kiss or play with each other. But they stayed together with very little joy.

2.

The bible's culture is farming. It was not a man going off to work at a factory while the wife stayed at home barefoot and pregnant.

In fact Proverbs 31:16 says this woman was a trades woman that sold things in the city. So while she was making business deals in the city the husband was at home taking care of the children.

3. Trend today is couples being married 25-30 years then getting divorced

Be God's Couple

Ephesians 5:21-27 Be subject to one another in the fear of Christ. Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself up for her, so that He might sanctify her, having cleansed her by washing of water with the word, that He might present to Himself the church in all her glory, having no spot or wrinkle or any such thing; but that she would be holy and blameless.

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Wives Respect (Col 3:18; Eph 5:22) – In the 21st century submission has become a dirty word. However, there is an intimate oneness in a marriage and submission without the loss of value. Both husband and wife submit to each other.

Husbands Love (Col 3:19; Eph 5:25-26) – Husbands are to love in such a way as to bring the wife to her life fulfillment (Holy and Blameless). The greatest joy of a husband is the fulfillment of his wife.

Submission implies voluntary for the sake of different roles to play. Children and slaves are to obey. However, a wives submission is in the Lord. The Husbands responsibility is not to rule but to enable the family to be what they were intended to be. Therefore He is to love like Christ loved.

What are the hopes and dreams of your mate? How are you helping them reach them?

GET JOY OUT OF YOUR MARRIAGE

Proverbs 5:15-19 Let your fountain be blessed, And rejoice in the wife of your youth. As a loving hind and a graceful doe, Let her breasts satisfy you at all times; Be exhilarated always with her love.

Plenty of Trees to enjoy! Why mess up your relationship over 1 tree?

Genesis 3:2-3 The woman said to the serpent, From the fruit of the trees of the garden we may eat; but from the fruit of the tree which is in the middle of the garden, God has said, You shall not eat from it or touch it, or you will die.

Genesis 1-3

Never About Finding the Right Person! It's Always about Being the Right Person

How did you find your Mate? How should someone find their mate?

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We Need Each Other

Genesis 2:18 Then the Lord said, It is not good for man to be alone. I will make him a helper suitable for him

It's interesting how creation words out

- God created Light out of Dark Chaos (Genesis 1:4 It was Good)
 - God created vegetation and trees (Gen 1:10 It was Good/Very Good)
 - God created sea monsters and sea life (Gen 1:21 It was Good /Very Good)
 - God created the land life & everything that crawls (Gen 1:25 It was Good /Very Good)
 - God created Everything (Genesis 1:31 It was Good /Very Good)
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Satan Attacks Marriages

Genesis 3:1-7 There is no better way to destroy society than to attack marriages

Adam and Eve just had this beautiful ceremony. Adam makes this romantic speech to Eve. "You are bone of my bone! Flesh of my Flesh!" Satan does not care about the ceremony, weather, or any other thing. His desire was to damage their relationship and their relationship with God.

Why Does Satan Attack Marriages?

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- John 10:10 Thief comes to steal kill and destroy
- 1 Peter 5:8 The enemy roams like a roaring lion seeking those to devour
- 1 Corinthians 7:5 Stop depriving one another, except by agreement for a time, so that you may devote yourselves to prayer, and [a]come together again so that Satan will not tempt you because of your lack of self-control.

What if the Mess is My Fault?

Obviously Adam & Eve failed at their relationship. Their decision was so bad that it damaged all families that would come after them. If we were honest with ourselves, we would say we have failed at our relationship.

Adam and Eve teaches us what not to do;

- Genesis 3:8 They heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden.
- Genesis 3:12-13 The man said, The woman whom You gave to be with me she gave me from the tree and I ate. Then the Lord said to the woman What is this you have done? And the woman said, The serpent deceived me and I ate.

As a Couple You Must Turn Back to God

Thank God the first messy relationship does not end in a mess. Although we have failed God never leaves us in failure. Genesis 3:15 From the seed of a woman I will crush the serpent's head.

Satan won a battle in the garden that damaged all of humanity. But trust me God is going to win the war. We gone see a mess in all the relationships that follow this relationships. But when Jesus came he redeemed us out of all of our failures.

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1. Get in Right Relationship with God
2. Commit to Growing closer to God as a Couple

Relationships are hard, but we need to make room for our mates. It's risky, and relationships can get messy, because the very people we make room for can hurt and disappoint us. But you got to make room for your mate and forgive.

1. Make Room For your Mate – Look for ways to show Godly Love to them. Look for Service Opportunities
2. Forgive – Remember the pain >> Be Angry >> Move Forward

11 Challenges for A JOY-FILLED Marriage

Plan Quiet Time with God Together	Date Regularly
Women's/Men's Conference	Marriage Conference
Romantic Adventures	Prayer Time Together
Worship Time Together	Invite a Seasoned Couple over for Dinner (Ask Them 10 Marriage Questions)
Study Your Spouse/ Find out Interest and Dreams	How can you help them reach their interest and dreams

**COMMIT TO THE 5 LOVE LANGUAGES STUDY WITH
PASTOR Tez & Lady Gala**

WHAT HAPPENS TO LOVE AFTER THE WEDDING

Chapter 1-3

LOVE LANGUAGE #1: WORDS OF AFFIRMATION

Chapter 4

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Chapter 5

LOVE LANGUAGE #3: RECEIVING GIFTS

Chapter 6

LOVE LANGUAGE #4: ACTS OF SERVICE

Chapter 7

LOVE LANGUAGE #5: PHYSICAL TOUCH

Chapter 8

DISCOVER YOUR PRIMARY LOVE LANGUAGE

Chapter 9

LOVE! LOVE! LOVE!

Chapter 10-13

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