



BIBLICAL  
TRAINING CENTER

REAL  
*marriage*

REAL  
*mercy*











# CLASS OUTLINE

- Purpose of Marriage
- Marriage Problems Often Worship Problems
- Marital Interactions - “Wardrobe” of Responses





# EXPECTATIONS

- Minimal conflict





# EXPECTATIONS

- Minimal conflict
- Continuous Happiness





# EXPECTATIONS

- Minimal conflict
- Continuous Happiness
- Shared moments of joy





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- Minimal conflict
- Continuous Happiness
- Shared moments of joy

*for better*



# REALITY

- Unexpected Conflict





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- Unexpected Conflict
- Unanticipated trials (family deaths)





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- Unexpected Conflict
- Unanticipated trials (family deaths)
- Frustrations, Disappointment, Hurts





# REALITY

- Unexpected Conflict
- Unanticipated trials (family deaths)
- Frustrations, Disappointment, Hurts

*for better or for worse*



# MY PERCEPTION OF MARRIAGE

I WILL...

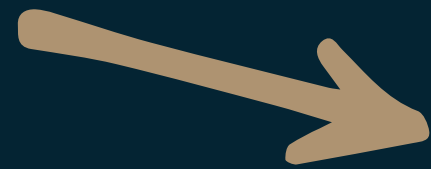
HAVE ALL MY  
NEEDS MET



# MY PERCEPTION OF MARRIAGE

I WILL...

HAVE ALL MY  
NEEDS MET



ALWAYS FEEL  
LOVED



# MY PERCEPTION OF MARRIAGE

I WILL...

HAVE ALL MY  
NEEDS MET



ALWAYS FEEL  
LOVED



BE GIVEN  
WORDS OF  
AFFIRMATION





# MY PERCEPTION OF MARRIAGE

I WILL...

HAVE ALL MY  
NEEDS MET

ALWAYS FEEL  
LOVED

BE GIVEN  
WORDS OF  
AFFIRMATION



SHE WILL...

- be perfectly sanctified





# PURPOSE OF MARRIAGE

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- **1 Cor 10:31** “So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, **do it all for the glory of God.**”

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- **1 Cor 10:31** “So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, **do it all for the glory of God.**”
- **Matthew 5:16** “In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds **and glorify your Father in heaven.**”

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- **Psalm 96:3** “**Declare his glory** among the nations, his marvelous deeds among all peoples.”
- **Psalm 96:7-8** “Ascribe to the Lord, all you families of nations, **ascribe to the Lord glory and strength**.  
Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name; bring an offering and come into his courts.



# LOVE IS COMMITMENT

- God's *Hesed* Love (steadfast, lovingkindness)
- "Oh, give thanks to the Lord, for He is good, for His **hesed** endures forever!" Psalm 136:1

# GOSPEL IS LOVE

- New testament - 4 types of Love
  - *Agape* - unconditional
- Gospel - example of (NT *Agape*)
- Ephesians 2:1-10
- But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great *agape* with which he loved us.....

# OLD TESTAMENT GOSPEL LOVE

- Psalm 103:8-12

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- Psalm 103:8-12 “The Lord is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love.<sup>9</sup> He will not always accuse, nor will he harbor his anger forever;<sup>10</sup> he does not treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our iniquities.<sup>11</sup> For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his love for those who fear him; <sup>12</sup> as far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us.”

# LOVE IS A VERB

1 Cor 13 - LOVE IS...

patient

kind

rejoices with the truth

bears all things

believes all things

hopes all things

endures all things

# LOVE IS A VERB

1 Cor 13 - LOVE IS...

patient

kind

rejoices with the truth

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believes all things

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1 Cor 13 - LOVE Is/Does NOT..

jealous

boast

arrogant/proud

dishonor others/act rudely

seek its own

easily angered/provoked

keep account of wrongs

suffered

rejoice in unrighteousness





◀ **Christ's love for  
the church**



# REFLECTION TIME

- When you first got married, what were your unspoken (perhaps subconscious) expectations?
- In what ways can you align your personal goals and desires with the purpose of glorifying God in your marriage?
- What are some practical ways you can demonstrate the gospel's power in your marriage, especially during challenging times?



GOSPEL FORGED MARRIAGES  
ARE COUNTER CULTURAL



HAVE IT YOUR WAY



YOU DESERVE A  
BREAK TODAY



L'ORÉAL

BECAUSE YOU ARE  
WORTH IT

“FOLLOW YOUR HEART”

“YOU DO YOU”

“YOU NEED TO FIND YOURSELF”

# MARRIAGE PROBLEMS ARE WORSHIP PROBLEMS

I take God off the throne  
Put myself on the throne





# WORSHIP IS SEARCHING FOR LIFE

John 10:10

“The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.”

# WORSHIP IS SEARCHING FOR JOY

Psalms 16:11

“You make known to me the path of life;  
in your presence there is fullness of joy;  
at your right hand are pleasures forevermore.”

# MISPLACED WORSHIP - CHASING IDOLS

Romans 1:25

“For they exchanged the truth of God for a lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen”.

# MISPLACED WORSHIP - CHASING IDOLS

Jeremiah 2:11-13

“Has a nation changed its gods even though they are no gods? But my people have changed their glory for that which does not profit. Be appalled, O heavens, at this: be shocked, be utterly desolate, declares the LORD. For my people have committed two evils: they have forsaken me, **the fountain of living waters**, and hewed out cisterns for themselves, **broken cisterns that can hold no water.**”

# REORIENTING OUR WORSHIP

- 1 Peter 2:2-11
- v2 - “long for the pure milk of the word”
- v3 - “tasted the kindness of the Lord”
- v5-6 Christ is the precious cornerstone
- v9 - “Chosen race, royal priesthood, holy nation, people for God’s possession so that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who called us out of darkness into His marvelous light”
- v10 - Once not a people, but now people of God
- v10 - Had not received mercy, but now receive mercy
- v11 - “Abstain from fleshly lusts which wage war against the soul”



# FOCUSING ON CHRIST

- Ephesians 5 - Marriage passage (v21-33)
- v32 - “Mystery is great - speaking with reference to Christ and the church”
- v1 - Be imitators of God
- v2 - Walk in love, **just as Christ** also loved you and gave himself up for us
- v21 - subject to one another out of **reverence for Christ**
- v22 - wives, submit to husbands, **as to the Lord**
- v25 - husbands, love your wives, **just as Christ** also loved the church
- v28-29 - “...nourishes and cherishes it, **just as Christ** also does the church”

# REFLECTION TIME

- Are there areas of your marriage that cause you lots of frustration? What were you trying to get? What is the idol at the root of that frustration?
- What are attributes of God that you can meditate on that can reorient your focus? How can you long for the “pure milk of the word”?
- Considering the “just as Christ” emphasis in Ephesians 5, where is the Lord calling you to move toward your spouse “just as Christ”?

# WHAT CLOTHES DO YOU WEAR?





REDEEMING EVERYDAY INTERACTIONS

# WHAT DO YOU PUT ON?

- Romans 13:14: “Put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.”

# FIRST: UNDERSTAND YOUR POSITION

- Colossians 3:1-3
- “If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.”

# WHAT DO YOU PUT ON?

- Colossians 3:5-17
- v5 - put to death
- v8 - anger, wrath, malice, slander, obscene talk, lying
- v12 - put on: compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, patience
- v13 - bearing with one another
- v13 - forgiving each other
- v14 - put on LOVE - binds everything together
- v15 - peace of Christ rule in your hearts



# WHAT'S BEHIND THE CHANGE?

- Colossians 3:9b-10, 16
- “You have put off the old self with its practices and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator.”
- “Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly”

# REFLECTION

- How can you actively improve your understanding of your position in Christ?
- What are some of your spontaneous responses?
- What would it look like to “put on” Christ?
- What ways can you grow in your knowledge of the Lord in the next 30 days?