

Outline – February 13, 2022
Genesis 2:22-25; Revelation 2:4-5
God's Principles Of Marriage

Laws Keep Systems In Place
God Is The Law Giver

- I. **The laws that maintain life**
 - A. The laws of physics
 - 1. The law of gravity
 - 2. The law of entropy
 - 3. Newton's law of motion
 - B. These laws put in place so that life can exist
 - C. Laws keep systems in place
- II. **The laws or principles of marriage**
 - A. God put into place (Genesis 2:22-25)
 - B. To be followed and understood
 - C. We suffer when we violate these principles
- III. **The four primary principles**
 - A. The law of priority
 - 1. Leaving and cleaving
 - 2. After marriage we must reprioritize
 - 3. (After Jesus) your spouse becomes first
 - 4. The Bible is intolerant of rivalry (something taking the place of established truth)
 - 5. Most couples have a higher satisfaction in the early stages of marriage
 - 6. Over time "other things" scream to be priority
 - 7. Marriage only works when it is in first place
 - 8. How to establish the right priorities
 - a. Actions more important than words
 - b. Sacrifice: Some things must go or be reduced
 - c. Time: Commodity of any relationship
 - 1) Beware of technology
 - 2) A good servant, but a terrible master
 - 3) It can create disconnection
 - d. Energy: This is a marathon not a sprint
 - e. Attitude: To be willing to serve the other
 - 1) Beware of trying to "prove yourself"
 - 2) Don't sacrifice your family on the altar of success

9. A blended family is to be built around the marriage not the children
 1. Beware of the popularity contest
 2. Build life around marriage, otherwise you become divided
 3. Be coaches, not performers
10. Be willing to make changes necessary for your marriage
- B. The principle of pursuit
 1. Is to be ongoing
 2. (Our problem) we work until we get what we want, then we stop
- C. Some myths we believe that negatively impact marriage
 1. If I marry the right person then our emotions will come naturally, effortlessly
 2. Myth 2: something is wrong if I have to work at this
 3. Myth 3: I am looking for my soul mate
- D. What "real soul mates" look like
 1. Two people who recognize they are messed up
 2. Who give each lots of grace
 3. Who lets the love of God flow through them
 4. Who work at being good at marriage (serving, loving, giving)
 5. Who overcome life's problems (together)
 6. Who forgive deeply and often
 7. Who come out as best friends
 8. Who look beyond faults and meet needs
 9. Love is a choice, a matter of the will
 10. Marriages that succeed work at getting better every year
- E. The worst marriages have these traits
 1. No forgiveness
 2. No one tries to improve
 3. Put expectations on the other one, no one can fulfill
 4. Spend their life punishing or parenting their spouse
 5. Feels it's all about them
 6. Doesn't believe you can get love back
 7. Stays on the crazy cycle
- F. Recognize that marriage follows the manna principle
 1. Each day is a new day
 2. The point system works only for the day
 3. All points "evaporate" at midnight
 4. You can't store up "points"
 5. Love must be renewed every day, like eating, sleeping

G. The law of possession

1. Marriage is about openness
2. Marriage is about sharing
3. Anything withheld creates
 - a. Division
 - b. Jealousy
 - c. Animosity
4. Messiah is to be the focus
5. Dominate and control creates dysfunction and destruction
6. Marriage is difficult for selfish people
7. Make decisions with your spouse's knowledge and blessing

H. The principle of purity

1. Take responsibility for actions
2. Don't let things come between you and your spouse
 - a. Other people
 - b. Career
 - c. Hobbies
 - d. Attitudes
 - e. Secrets

**The Principles Of Marriage
Hold Us Together**

**May They Make Your Marriage
For Better Or For Best**