

Outline – February 5, 2023
1 Corinthians 13:1-5, Revelation 2:2-5
Unshakeable Love

One Of The Most Heart Wrenching Questions
Among Young Adults

- I. **Does anyone stay married anymore?**
 - A. The stats and stories aren't promising for many
 - B. But there is something in us that says I want my love to last and be unshakeable
 - C. What we know
 - 1. Never easier to fall in love
 - 2. Never been more difficult to stay in love

- II. **Some basic principles we often apply, to strengthen our marriage**
 - A. Being the right person
 - 1. Work out our phobias, fears, triggers
 - 2. Work out our peeves, personality flaws
 - 3. Know what it takes to be in a committed relationship
 - 4. Be right with God as Jesus works in your life
 - 5. Are you willing to serve and be selfless
 - B. Choose the right person
 - 1. Look at their spiritual life
 - 2. Look at their home life
 - 3. Look at their friends
 - 4. Look at how they make - spend money
 - 5. Look at their interests
 - 6. Look at their goals
 - 7. Look at their habits
 - C. Are you listening to the right person?
 - 1. Are you listening to Jesus?

- III. **Jesus speaks into our chaos and into our emptiness**
 - A. Love one another, as I have loved you
 - B. How does Jesus love us (1 Corinthians 13:1-5)
 - C. What love is
 - 1. Love is patient
 - 2. Love is kind
 - D. What love is not
 - 1. Love is not controlling, jealous
 - 2. Love is not arrogant, pompous
 - 3. Love is not provoked

4. Love doesn't keep records

E. What love does

1. It submits (mutual submission)
2. It bears all things, hopes all things, believes all things, endures all things

F. Some only see love as a noun, but love is a verb

1. Something you do
2. Not a tool you use to control

IV. The advice Jesus gives when love is being shaken

A. Remember from where you fell

1. The stages of relationship
2. Awareness, interest, positive exchange, romantic interest, emotional focus, positive romance (thinking marriage)
3. Passion, bonding (the decline) normalcy, reality, distraction, loss of romantic relationship

B. Distraction can be destructive

2. Keeps you from investing
3. You stop investing, you stop growing
4. You stop growing, you start dying

C. Many marriages are dead, just haven't had the funeral

1. Others are on life support
2. Why? When you stop growing, you start dying

D. The worst statement in marriage "The honeymoon is over"

1. Long before marriages end the romance stops
2. It becomes boring
3. Couple stops growing
4. Because they are distracted
5. When it stops growing, starts dying
6. This happens to our spiritual life

V. What restores our marriage and our Spiritual health (Romance and worship)

A. Romance keeps you from being lazy and protects you from outside temptation... How

1. Meeting the unspoken need of your spouse
 - a. Flowers/flirting
 - b. "I am proud of you"
2. Romance says I am paying attention to what you need
3. Romance says you are on my heart
4. Our greatest hope: To be desired
Our greatest fear: To be rejected

B. Romance is the language of desire, worship is language of desire

1. If you are not romantic it communicates a lack of desire
2. The same is true of worshiping your Savior
3. Jesus pursued us, loves us, gave Himself for us
4. God inhabits the praises of His people
5. So, when a person makes no effort (goes through the motions), never gets off the couch, never opens his/her heart, the result you are saying I don't desire you

C. Repent

1. Shows value
2. Give up things for them
3. Change your thinking

D. Redo things you did before

1. Find new ways
2. Create better ways
3. What 3 things are you not doing now, that you were doing when things were good?
4. When you do the right thing emotions will follow
5. Get rid of that, which is distracting you

VI. **What happens if we don't (remember, repent, do what we did at first)?**

- A. Our lampstand is removed
- B. Light begins to leave
- C. Darkness takes over
- D. We lose what God intended to be a blessing

Keep Your Love Unshakeable