

Outline – February 6, 2022
Matthew 6:32-34, John 4:5-18
“The Grace Of God In Marriage”

God: The Creator Of Marriage And Family

- I. **The first sacred Institution**
 - A. Created by God, for God
 - 1. For our good
 - 2. For our blessing
 - 3. For our protection
 - 4. For our children
 - 5. For our understanding
 - B. Created in a perfect setting, to perfect people, by a perfect creator
 - C. Though the setting and the subjects have changed, the purpose remains
 - 1. Love given
 - 2. Loneliness resolved
 - 3. Loyalty experienced
 - 4. Life shared
 - 5. Learning continuous
 - 6. Laughter experienced
 - 7. Lord Jesus honored
- II. **The first spiritual principle as a couple**
 - A. To walk, to fellowship, to obey the word of God - (marriage & spiritual union)
 - 1. Walking with God
 - 2. Fellowship
 - 3. Obeying
 - B. When we grow weak in our faith
 - 1. Drift from God
 - 2. No longer fight the good fight
 - 3. Become spiritually lazy
 - C. We put our marriage at risk
 - 1. We then put ourselves at risk
 - 2. We put our loved ones at risk
 - 3. We put our children at risk
 - 4. We create a relational, spiritual, psychological and emotional pathology
 - 5. This can lead to a variety of problems and dysfunctions
- III. **The top ten things that causes destruction, dysfunction and depression in a marriage. (What to avoid)**
 - A. Ignorance
 - 1. We really need insight, instruction, information on how to be married

2. Over 50% of all people come out of homes that were destructive, unhappy or failed
 3. Thus we have minimal understanding or knowledge on how to be married
 4. We then repeat the patterns and behaviors we saw in our family of origin. (People are destroyed due to a lack of knowledge)
 5. The power of a teachable spirit
 - a. A coach
 - b. A mentor
 - c. A sponsor
 - d. Reading a book every year
- B. Not healing your past hurts. (Hopefully before your marriage)
1. Be honest about your past hurts in your marriage. Begin the healing process
 2. Trauma is a reality in life, and we are afraid to show past hurts
 3. Fear keeps your hurt in the darkness
 4. It's ok to be real, open and transparent in marriage
 5. Anything that stays in darkness is Satan's domain
 6. Let God's Spirit and God's people help you heal the hurts life
- C. Not taking responsibility for our actions
1. Our actions are our choice
 2. Confessing and forgiving are the elements of emotional healing
 3. When you harbor unforgiveness it is going to impact both of you
- D. Bad company
1. Will impact your marriage
 2. Addiction, abuse and adultery often runs in groups
 3. We all listen to someone
- E. Defensiveness
1. Spouse needs to be heard
 2. Problems don't go away they accumulate
 3. Defensiveness is a sign of emotional weakness
 4. Healthy families talk and process
 5. Dysfunctional couples stay in silence
 6. Defensiveness destroys intimacy and inhibits honesty and openness
- F. Criticism: That is malicious
- G. "Checking out" emotionally
1. Emotional abandonment
- H. Control and Dominance
1. Two shall be one
 2. Differing roles and strengths
 3. Designed to serve

- I. Abuse
 - 1. No excuse for abuse
 - 2. Boundaries must be created
 - 3. Find support – help
- J. Adultery
 - 1. The greatest pain
- IV. The solution/answer given by Jesus**
 - A. The woman at the well
 - 1. Defeated
 - 2. Disenchanted with marriage
 - 3. Disconnected from God
 - 4. Depressed in life
 - B. Jesus shows compassion
 - 1. Nothing wrong with her that can't be fixed
 - C. His message
 - 1. You are drinking from the wrong well
 - 2. You are seeking other things first
 - 3. He is the answer to her disconnection, depression, and defeat
 - 4. Our connection to Him is the key to every loving relationship
- V. What Jesus provides in our lives and relationships**
 - A. Acceptance – love
 - B. Identity
 - C. Security
 - D. Purpose
 - E. Grace
- VI. The power of seeking Him first**
 - A. We will put expectations on others they can't fulfill
 - B. We will make the marriage all about "me"
 - C. Without Him, we don't have the living water that gives faith, hope, love
- VII. What we are called to do**
 - A. Examine ourselves
 - 1. Assess our faith
 - 2. Do an inventory of our relationship
 - 3. Acknowledge the expectations you placed on others
 - 4. Acknowledge the pain you have caused
 - 5. Seek grace, forgiveness and give it
 - B. Allow Jesus to give you that living water
 - 1. Let it refresh your spirit
 - 2. Let it refresh your marriage

**Seek Ye First The Kingdom And
All These Things Will Be Added Unto You**