

## Notes

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### Divorce Proof Your Marriage (Part 2)

What we found last week:

- The first attack of the enemy on mankind was against the relationship between men and women – called the marriage covenant.

Why:

- It's the image of God marrying His Bride, the Church.
- God also designed the Church to be an overflow of your marriage.

This mini-series is to raise up our standard of our marriage by exposing Satan's lies, and understand four things that will divorce-proof your marriage.

- Satan wants you to believe it will never end the struggles you have.

#### **4 Keys to Divorce Proof Your Marriage**

##### **1. Keep the marriage covenant sacred.**

###### Covenant Marriage:

Both spouses rescind all their rights and accept all the responsibilities for their marriage.

###### Contract Marriage:

Both spouses keep as many rights as possible and accept very few responsibilities for the marriage.

## 2. You have to die to your selfish desire, so you can serve your spouse.

- I wish I can say that you can fulfill all your fleshly desires and still be happily married → however, individuality is not the key.

### Ephesians 5:22

<sup>22</sup> Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord.

### Ephesians 5:25

<sup>25</sup> Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her,

### Ephesians 5:28

<sup>28</sup> So husbands ought to love their own wives as their own bodies; he who loves his wife loves himself.

- Most of the burden still belongs to the man.

Nowhere in scripture does it give the right to enforce these statements in Ephesians on one another.

- \* Men: You cannot enforce your leadership upon your wife.
- \* Ladies: You cannot enforce his leadership upon him for your home.

Both statements are given as responsibilities of the person to accept it in their heart, allowing it to be revelation and changes them forever.

- \* Jesus died for many that haven't accepted Him as Lord.

The acceptance and salvation came later; the dying came first.

Husbands – your wife will change when you die to self  
Ladies – your husband will change after your death to the flesh

- \* Jesus died because He understood that only by His death would people be able to come to the Father.

Only by your death can a miracle happen in your spouse.

As long as you decide to keep on living for your own desires, your own individuality, your own dreams and plans, and say, "When they change then we will be one," you are blocking the miracle in your marriage.

- The best marriage is two dead people living together, serving one another with passion and love trying to be the best server.
  - If you're not dead, God cannot do His part.
  - Jesus said you must let a seed go into the ground and die so it can produce its fruit.

### **1 Corinthians 2:13**

<sup>13</sup>These things we also speak, not in words which man's wisdom teaches but which the Holy Spirit teaches, comparing spiritual things with spiritual.

Your flesh is like my flesh:

- It wants control
- It wants power
- It wants authority.

- \* Jesus said, you have to die to get the miracle.

Apathy is our greatest enemy because selfishness is our greatest sin.

- Selfish people cannot be happy.
  - Serving does not need a response

## **Ephesians 5:21**

<sup>21</sup>submitting to one another in the fear of God.

- “Come under a mission” is true submission

What is the mission of your home? Are you serving your spouse?

### **3. Speak words that bring life and health to your marriage.**

## **Proverbs 10:19**

<sup>19</sup>In the multitude of words sin is not lacking, but he who restrains his lips is wise.

- Wise people learn to measure their words.

## **Proverbs 12:18**

<sup>18</sup>There is one who speaks like the piercings of a sword, but the tongue of the wise *promotes* health.

- Sticks and stones may break my bones but names (words) can never hurt me → that saying is true, but not the truth.

Reckless words damage people (pierce like a sword – they cut, slice, and wound people) but the tongue of the wise brings healing and health.

Here is the result:

- Many didn't even get to 10 years / they divorced

Of those who divorced, they found four stages that led to divorce – all had to do with words.

- There was constant criticism of each other.
- Stage 2 is becoming defensive, not allowing corrective discourse

- Contempt or unresolved anger
- Final stage to divorce – stonewalling – you emotionally have checked out of your marriage.

- Adulterous affairs are not usually about sex.

Adulterous affairs are about having your emotional needs met by someone else than your spouse.

When you're talking to your spouse:

- Leave the past in its proper place
- Your body language speaks loudly

If you want change – change yourself and serve your spouse.

#### **4. Realize that only Jesus can meet your deepest needs.**

##### **John 6:35**

<sup>35</sup> And Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life. He who comes to Me shall never hunger, and he who believes in Me shall never thirst.

Jesus is saying, I am your Source.

- 4 things every human wants:
  - Every human wants acceptance
  - Every human wants identity
  - Every human being wants security
  - Every human being in this room wants a purpose  
→ basically to know God has a plan for them

Always know that no human being can fulfill those needs, and Jesus can.

I love Teri and she loves me, but Teri is not the source of my love. Teri brings a lot of joy to me. She is not the source of my joy.

Love, joy, and peace comes from Jesus. He is my Source.

**John 6:35**

<sup>35</sup> And Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life. He who comes to Me shall never hunger, and he who believes in Me shall never thirst.

\* Serve one another, with the depth of Jesus being your Source.