

Women in Marriage

Mechanics

- Four Weeks 8/12, 8/19, 8/26, 9/
- Start Time 7:00 Discussion 8:30 Finish Time:9:30(?) - Bring beverages, snacks
- Questions At Break and End
- Bring your bible
- How to Act Right When Your Spouse...
- When Sinners Say "I Do" by Dave Harvey
- What Did You Expect? by Paul David Tripp
- Sacred Marriage by Gardener



Mechanics

- To Audit:
 - You took the class before & completed it
 - FREE
- To Complete Class:
 - Attend 3/4 weeks (sign in)
 - Turn in memory verses every week



Syllabus

- Week 1: Our Goal and How to Achieve It
- Week 2: Submit, Respect, Follow
- Week 3: Sex
- Week 4: Dealing with Hurts and Disappointments/Forgiveness/Giving Correction



What We Hope To Achieve

- Better understanding of how to love (our husbands) motivated by grace
- An understanding of the Biblical perspective on marriage and the role of the wife



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Why Study?

- **Marriage is confusing**
- **The culture says a good marriage is???**
- Something people still desire
- Something we have great difficulty making work.



Why Study?

- **Marriage is confusing**
- **The church says a good marriage is???**
- **Something Christians have difficulty making work**





Why Study?

- We are confused
- Lies from ourselves-sin nature
- Lies from the world around us
- We believe the goal is our happiness
- NOT God's goal





Why Study?

- Goal is that we look like Jesus
- “For those God foreknew he also predestined *to be conformed to the likeness of his Son*, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers.” (Rom.8:29)





Why Study?

- How do we look like Jesus?
- Becoming people who are able to love
- Not on the basis of what people deserve
- On the basis of grace
- On the basis of truth





Why Study?

- God aims to make us people who are really good at loving
- Our marriages can be “His school of love” for us
- It *IS* all about us
- But there is a purpose greater than us
- Point people to Him





Why Study?

“...that they may be one; even as You, father are in Me and I in You, that they also may be in Us, so that the world may believe that You sent Me.” (John 17:21)





Why Study?

- If we can love at home, we can love anywhere



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A lot to think about...where do we start?

- We have all kinds of problems in our marriages...
- We are committed to looking out for and protecting self
- WHY?
- We need to take care of ourselves

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A lot to think about...where do we
start?

- We have insufficient resources
- Been this way since man (and woman) removed God from the position of looking out for and caring for them when they threw off God's authority

Where do we start?

- This was the choice in the garden of Eden
- "You are free to eat from any tree in the garden; but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat of it you will surely die." (Gen.2:16-17)

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Where do we start?

- Result – “death” = separation
- Separation from God
- Left the security of God’s care and became orphans
- Desperately scrambling to take care of ourselves ever since



Where do we start?

- Core problem: insufficient resources
- Christ claims to have more than we need



Where do we start?

- “On the last and greatest day of the Feast, Jesus stood and said in a loud voice, "If anyone is thirsty, let him come to me and drink. Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, streams of living water will flow from within him." (John 7:37-38)

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Where do we start?

“Jesus answered, “Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks the water I give him will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life.” (John 4:13, 14)

Where do we start?

- Jesus claims to have the resources-we only need to take him up on his offer
- “Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God” (John 1:12)

Where do we start?

- Taking care of ourselves no longer has to be our top priority
- With unlimited resources we can be generous in our relationships
- Does NOT leave us wanting
- “For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it; but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it.” (Matt.16:25)

Where do we start?

- Need to drink deeply from the water He offers – stay connected to Him and His lifeline.
- Growing awareness of own sin keep us returning to the waters that over flow

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Where we don't want to go – tearing down

- Advice from Solomon
- “The wise woman builds her house,
but the foolish tears it down with her
own hands.” (Prov.14:1)

Tearing Down

- “An excellent wife is the crown of her husband, But she who shames him is **like rottenness in his bones.**”
(Prov.12:4)

Tearing Down

“Better a meal of vegetables where there is love than a fattened calf with hatred.” (Prov.15:17)

“Better is a dry morsel and quietness with it, than a house full of feasting with strife. (Prov.17:1)

Tearing Down

- End result of a critical spirit: “The problem is that criticism makes him feel less of a man. Whether or not she realizes it, she is sending him the message that he’s inadequate and the implication only damages the male ego. He feels unloved, unacceptable, and taken for granted. (Malphurs, Biblical Manhood and Womanhood, p.122)

Tearing Down

- “...the contentions of a wife are a constant dripping.” (Prov.19:13b)
- “A constant dripping on a day of steady rain and a contentious woman are alike; he who would restrain her restrains the wind and grasps oil with his right hand.” (Prov.27:15,16)

Tearing Down

- “It is better to live in the corner of a roof than in a house with a contentious woman.” (Prov.21:9)
- “It is better to live in a desert land than with a contentious and vexing woman.” (Prov.21:19)
- vex=bring trouble or distress/to provoke anger or disappoint by small irritations/to annoy

Tearing Down

“A husband wants a wife he can make happy. This was by far the biggest revelation....It makes so much sense. Husbands want to be able to make their wives happy. When their wives are happy, they are happy. It was the underlying issue in all of their answers.”

(What Men Want in a Woman”, Potter, Joanie Perkins. Urban Family Magazine, Spring 1995. P.13)

Building Up: Prov. 31:10-31

- Look for broad principles...not narrow interpretation
- Beverly LaHaye's wife.... "The Twentieth Century Woman of Proverbs"

Building Up: Prov. 31:10-31

- **Trustworthy:** 11,12 “Heart of her husband trusts in her and he will have no lack of gain.”
- Does NOT mean cannot talk to others about our spouse
- “Bear one another’s burdens and thereby fulfill the law of Christ.” (Gal.6:2)
- He is secure in her love
- She has his back

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Builds Up: Prov. 31:10-31

- **Industrious:** 13-16, 18, 22, 24, 27, 28
- “she looks for wool and flax, and works with her hands in delight” 13

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Builds Up:Prov.31:10-31

- **Industrious:** 13-16, 18, 22, 24, 27,28
- At home (What is Family Edith Schaeffer)
- Outside the home (Men's Work, Women's Work Mardi Keyes-audio recording)
- She is an asset financially
- She's not lazy-Col.3:17

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Building Up: Prov. 31:10-31

- **Organized...and she smiles at the future (25)**
- Word of caution
- “Pyramid” not Biblical
- We need to be faithful to **ALL** that God calls us to
- Prioritize according to God’s priorities

Building Up: Prov. 31:10-31

- Walk by the Spirit
- Do we know our own tendencies?
- Tribal-overly focused on family and folks in our “circle”?
- Diffuse-not focused enough at home?

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Building Up: Prov. 31:10-31

- **Kind:** “...and the teaching of kindness is on her tongue.”²⁶
- Actively generous and helpful
- Considerate/extend benefit of the doubt

Building Up: Prov. 31:10-31

- **Outward focused:** “She extends her hand to the poor...19-(Dillow soft here)
- She cares about the poor
- Prov.14:21 Zech.7:9&10 Jer.22:13-17
- Is.58:6 &7 Mt.5:46,47 Rom.12:13
 - 1Pet.4:9 Ezek.16:49

Building Up:Prov.31:10-31

- “He pled the cause of the afflicted and needy; then it was well. Is that not what it means to know Me?’ Declares the Lord.” (Jer.22:16)

Homework

Memorize John 4:13,14 1 Cor.13:4-7

- Block off an appointment(daily) with the Lord. Generate a list of scriptures that speak of God's promises to provide.
- Meditate on 1 Cor.13 and journal about God's love toward you. How has He been patient and kind toward you? How does he continue to bear, believe, hope and endure all things concerning you?

Homework

- Invite Him daily to show you the hurtful way within you. (Ps.139:23,24)
- Pray about the issue of trust and your husband
- Does your husband feel like you have his back? Ask God to show you one change you can make that would increase your husband's ability to trust you.
- **Extra brave:** Ask your husband what you do that embarrasses him.