

The Love Walk

**LESSON 6:**  
**LOVE AND MARRIAGE**

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# Introduction

- Last week we talked about the 3 kinds of love
  - Phileo – Brotherly love (affiliation)
  - Eros – Sensual love (affection/sensation)
  - Agape – Unconditional love (determination)
- All 3 are valid – especially in the context of marriage
- We will see through the teaching that love is a choice

# The Institution of Marriage

- ◎ Marriage was the 1<sup>st</sup> earthly institution ordained by God
  - **Genesis 2:23-24**
    - <sup>23</sup> And Adam said, This is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh: she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man. <sup>24</sup> Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh.

# The Purpose of Marriage

- ◎ It is God's plan to fill and subdue the earth
  - **Malachi 2:15**
    - 15 And did not he make one? Yet had he the residue of the spirit. And wherefore one? That he might seek a godly seed. therefore take heed to your spirit, and let none deal treacherously against the wife of his youth.

# Submission in Marriage

- ◎ Husbands AND Wives must submit!

- **Ephesians 5:21-25**

- <sup>21</sup> Submitting yourselves one to another in the fear of God. <sup>22</sup> Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord. <sup>23</sup> For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body. <sup>24</sup> Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in every thing. <sup>25</sup> Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it;

# The Successful Start to Marriage

- ◎ A man must have **WORK** before he can have a **WIFE!**
  - **Genesis 2:15**
    - <sup>15</sup> And the LORD God took the man, and put him into the garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it.
- ◎ Note, I said **WORK**, not a **JOB!**
  - A job will frustrate you and make marriage difficult!

# The 1<sup>st</sup> Step to Successful Marriage

- God's plan: HE presents the woman to the man!
  - **Genesis 2:22**
    - <sup>22</sup> And the rib, which the LORD God had taken from man, made he a woman, and brought her unto the man.

# The 2<sup>nd</sup> Step to Successful Marriage

- ◎ God PRESENTS, Man FINDS!
  - **Proverbs 18:22**
    - <sup>22</sup> Whoso findeth a wife findeth a good thing, and obtaineth favour of the LORD.
  - Note the “good thing” is the woman, not the man!
  - **Proverbs 31:10**
    - <sup>10</sup> Who can find a virtuous woman? for her price is far above rubies.
  - A VIRTUOUS woman is rare and precious!
- ◎ Ladies, if you’re looking for a man, you’re out of order!

# The 3<sup>rd</sup> Step to Successful Marriage

- ⦿ It requires emotional AND physical contact!
  - **1 Corinthians 7:2-4**
    - <sup>2</sup> Nevertheless, to avoid fornication, let every man have his own wife, and let every woman have her own husband. <sup>3</sup> Let the husband render unto the wife due benevolence: and likewise also the wife unto the husband. <sup>4</sup> The wife hath not power of her own body, but the husband: and likewise also the husband hath not power of his own body, but the wife.
- ⦿ Marriage is a covenant relationship and **REQUIRES MAINTENANCE!**

# Marriage is Sacrificial

## ☉ Marriage is SACRIFICIAL

### • **Ephesians 5:2**

- <sup>2</sup> And walk in love, as Christ also hath **loved** us, and hath given himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet smelling savour.

### • **Ephesians 5:25**

- <sup>25</sup> Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also **loved** the church, and gave himself for it;

# Marriage Is Honorable

- ⦿ Marriage helps keep the believer from falling into judgment
  - **Hebrews 13:4**
    - <sup>4</sup> Marriage is honourable in all, and the bed undefiled: but whoremongers and adulterers God will judge.
- ⦿ Marriage is honorable but we must esteem it valuable!

# Marriage is the Church Paradigm

- ◎ The Love of Christ is revealed in marriage
  - **Revelation 19:7**
    - <sup>7</sup> Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready.