

Marriage

Part 1: "Inextricable Marriage!"

When we left off... We were talking about love that is willing to alter its course for the sake of others... Jesus' kind of love! Radical illustration of a woman who would *make a choice* to carry a child... Give up her natural pathway, resist the offers to self-indulge, ignore ugly comments, wait for likeminded friends that may never come... Do what is right in the sight of God... All for the possibility of redemption!

Jesus kind of love, kingdom kind of love!

"Kingdom love" means "believer sacrifice"* (*If anything we do for God's sake can legitimately be considered a sacrifice! (How is it sacrifice when we are rewarded for every good work by the One who never misses one? How is it sacrifice when we are laying down a self-flesh driven life to ascend to a higher life experience in God? Isn't that a strategic move w/rewards?)

Inquiring minds want to know... so they can adjust their thinking!

Talking about love that is willing to alter its course for the sake of others! And we've all heard the old time adage that "charity begins at home!" Most often used *negatively* as an excuse for selfishness, miserliness! But also a *positive* truism of kingdom life... If love doesn't apply "at home," doesn't begin in the "beginning place," there is no profitable ministry!

"He saved others, but lost his wife and family!"

"God created them *male and female* and blessed them and said, '*Be fruitful and multiply and replenish the earth and subdue it and have dominion over every living thing...*'" Genesis 1.27,28

We were created to operate together... and from that togetherness we bear fruit, we duplicate ourselves and our good works, and we rule and reign in our worlds!

In an earlier message... I told you that it was important for society to break up the Christian foundation of our nation... so that it can make up its own rules of morality and civility! Nullify God and you can have the free rule of man! Same thing is true about breaking away from God's definition and destination for marriage... Change the definition/change the results!

Ruin marriages, redefine marriage, make hurting, unrestored singles, bitter and suspicious, use defiant co-habitation to break the norm of morality and you stop the flow of ministry!

This is why our marriages are under attack... If you don't believe it you don't realize that divorce is the same in the church as in the world... Don't fix, throw it away, get a new one! And that we have many marriages in our church cracking and breaking up! What used to happen infrequently now happens with great frequency...

Must stop the slide and pull it all back "together!"

Under Attack... There is a strategic movement from the enemy of our salvation... "a roaring lion seeking whom he may devour!" There is a drunken, deceived and diseased society believing they will be happy when they get their way... Living contrary to God always leads to further disaster and heartache!

And we are susceptible...

Because we haven't developed the "roots" that anchor us in storms... Husbands and wives must be drawing from deep wells, hidden from sight! Secured during cataclysmic events! Able to bend to the ground in heavy winds! "Longsuffering toward one another..."

That only comes from the Words of God, interaction with His Spirit and transparent fellowship with the saints!

We get tangled in the cares of this world... The deceitfulness of riches! The tin foil ball! Lusts of the flesh, eyes! Pursuit of youth! Pride of this life! What are you taking with you?

"Don't become entangled again..." "Don't be captured and covered up like a lamp with a shade..."

We don't have the love that alters its course for the sake of others! We don't have each other's back... "Sin is laying at the door..." When was the last time you were on your face praying (fasting) for the trouble your mate is facing? Let him have his fun (I have mine...) "If you don't pray I'm going to die!"

When was the last time you went out of the way to serve them?

"God created them *male and female* and blessed them and said, '*Be fruitful and multiply* and replenish the earth and *subdue it and have dominion* over every living thing..." Genesis 1.27,28

"From the beginning of creation God made them *male and female*, for this cause they cleave to one another and *the two are made one flesh* so they are no longer two but one flesh..." Mark 10.6-8

SWAIGTDWWIKN?

- 1. Going to rid myself of society's idea of "start over" marriages!** "In God, I am interlocked with my mate!" "What God has put together..." I won't let anyone or anything pull apart! That means I will deal with everything that rises against my bond (within/without!)
"I WILL DEAL WITH IT OPENLY AND HONESTLY, CALMLY, AND PATIENTLY, UNTIL RESOLUTION!"
Nothing will by any means defeat me! INEXTRICABLY bound together!

Inextricable! 1. a. So intricate or entangled as to make escape impossible. b. Difficult or impossible to disentangle or untie: *an inextricable tangle of threads*. 2. Unavoidable; inescapable: *bound together by inextricable ties*. 3. Two become one flesh. To be bound, knit, wound together.

- 2. a.** I am going to take deliberate actions to rebuild and rekindle my marriage! (restorative action!) What the thief has stolen I am going to *retrieve!* Love/passion/attention! What I have neglected I am going to *revive!* Communication/demonstration! What has died I am going to *resurrect!* Trust/respect/honor/romance!

b. I am going to take deliberate actions to build and kindle my marriage! (strategic advancement!) What has been good, and what I value, I am going to *celebrate!* What has worked I am going to *fortify!* And what I have dreamed I am going to *materialize!*
- 3.** I am going to show my kids, family, friends and the world what marriage looks like! God *blessed* them... Marriage as a blessing, not a curse! Some Christian kids don't want to get married because of what they "know!" Be *fruitful* and *multiply* and *replenish*... Getting further ahead, going farther! *Subdue* and *have dominion*... Not domination, but leadership!