

The Dynamic Marriage

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Worship

Living with Your Spouse in the Presence of God

Key Thought: As a couple we grow to understand how worship puts our problems in perspective.

Col 3:1-11 The Worship Foundation

Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. 2 Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. 3 For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. 4 When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

- What we worship we will:
 - Adore and sacrifice for
 - Focus on and submit to
 - Seek after and hope in
 - Serve and give to
 - Speak about often
 - Look for peace, meaning, and happiness
 - Spend much time, thoughts, resources and energy on.

- What men and women worship instead of or in addition to the Lord
 - **Men:{Worldly Respect}** Knowledge, control, wealth, themselves, good health, other gods, another person, pleasure/comfort, pain free life, trouble free life, an accomplishment, fair and good treatment, good opinion of others, respect of wife, significance/success/impact of their life, good marriage/kids/income, satisfying sex life, ambition
 - **Women:{Worldly Love}** Good health, physical appearance, having a healthy Christian marriage, being treated fairly, having a hurt free/pain free life, worldly pleasures, children, another person to love her besides husband, specific material things, money, approval, having her needs met, success.

- What is your heart set on?
 - Things above or things below? Not our earthly thoughts or our rights.
 - Where is your passion directing you?
 - Towards a Christ centered life/marriage/home?
 - Towards a nice Christian life style?
 - Towards the things of this world for a season or forever?
 - Your “needs” met in whatever way it takes/ or waiting on the Lord?

Ps 37:3-4 The focus of our worship

3 Trust in the Lord and do good; dwell in the land and enjoy safe pasture. 4 Delight yourself in the Lord and he will give you the desires of your heart.

- Delight yourself in the Lord > your spiritual worship
 - Focus on Him and let Him direct your heart towards the dwelling in the land.
 - Land/safe pasture are the basic areas of security of ancient times
 - Your desires are centered on the His land and pasture that He has given you.
 - Your marriage desires come from your heart that has been transformed by Him.
 - They now reflect everything that draws us closer to Him
 - They now reflect everything that empowers me to help my spouse draw closer to the Lord.
- Wrong desires of the Wife: That her husband will: be affectionate, anticipate her needs without asking, give her unsolicited compliments, make her feel special, will not hurt her feelings, talk to her and share his thoughts and feelings with her, put her first.
- Right desires of the wife: To know God's Word and obey it. To delight in Him, To seek Him with all her heart, To be pleasing to Him regardless of the circumstances, to cultivate an attitude of joy and gratitude in what God is doing in her life no matter what her husband does or does not do.
- Wrong Desire of the Husband: That his wife will please him with her physical looks/dress, talents, abilities and accomplishments outside the home. To do whatever he wants with his time, to not have his wife keep him waiting, that his wife will be the sexual initiator and the perfect sex partner, She would treat him with respect, total love would be found with her, He would have the "good life". Peace and harmony would fill his life.
- Right desires of the Husband: To know Christ and delight to walk in Him (ph3:10ff), To know God's word and obey it fully, to seek Him his whole life, To be pleasing to Christ, to have an attitude of Joy In every circumstance. To serve others, to have an eternal vision of life

Rom 12:1-2 Wrap it up!

Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God — this is your spiritual act of worship. 2 Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is — his good, pleasing and perfect will. NIV

- True worship is like eyeglasses for the soul. Allowing us to see the world for what it really is. Then to see how God sees us in our relationship with Him and with our spouse.
- Without our eyes on Christ then the rest is blurry. Our marriage is always bumping into something. Hidden sin, unforgiveness, hurt, are in the way of a Christ centered/worshipping marriage.
- The worldly ways may seem good, but if your spouse is the only one that can met your needs....then how do I respond a God who says that he will supply ALL MY NEEDS according to His riches and glory? Phil 4:19