

## KINGDOM HOMES ARE ENGAGED HOMES – Eph 5:22-33, 7/24/22

### A. WE LISTEN – Jas 1:19

1. Tell me more- we invite the other to speak, and listen without judgement (2/3s of Americans have NO one who does this- B.L.E.S.S)
2. I need to talk- we let each other know when we need that listening ear
3. I need a break- we tell each other when we need a breather, and set a time to get back together
4. I hear you saying- we paraphrase when things get difficult
5. We let each other tell their story- vs interrupting or correcting minor details- “Who’s telling the story?”

### B. WE LET GO – Php 3:13

1. Past arguments that we disagree about, don’t help present arguments we disagree about
2. We try to stay in the present- there is enough to deal with
3. We work through the past personally
4. We learn from the past- apologize, grow- “If I had to do it over again, I wish I would have…”

### C. WE MOVE FORWARD – Php 4:8

1. We agree to disagree
2. We act upon the 1% we agree upon

### D. WE HAVE FUN – Rev 2:5

1. We eat at least one meal together a day
2. We play a game or watch 1 TV show each night
3. We have a weekly date night on....
4. We have intimacy twice a week on...

- Try reading through Eph 5:22-33 several times this week. Pray it back 😊

### ❖ **WHAT’S GOD SAYING TO YOU?** – write it down, pray it back, share it with others!

Heavenly Father, make our home a kingdom home, an Ephesians 5 home, an engaged home. Help us to take up Your easy, kingdom yoke in our home. Give us delight, mutual satisfaction and joy. Help us to engage. I especially feel You saying to me...

### ❖ **GETTING OUR FEET WET-** Why the two-year marriage happiness gap?

#### QUICK REVIEW – The Kingdom of God

- What- the kingdom is where God reigns
- How- with His power, presence, purity, peace and prosperity
- Who- offering the kingdom to all those who follow willingly
- When-
  - From eternity- God always has reigned and will reign
  - Now- on earth in the hearts and lives of His followers
  - Future- on earth, when Christ returns
  - Near- available & urgent, we must make a decision
- Where- in every sphere- our hearts, homes, church, work, community, world, eternity – Ps 128
- Why - Key- to understanding God, Jesus, the Bible, Satan, Creation, Salvation, Christian Life, the spheres of home, church, work, community and world; Heaven & Hell

### ❖ **DIVING INTO SCRIPTURE- Eph 5:22-33**

#### I. WHAT HAVE WE MISSED IN EPHESIANS 5?

A. We’ve focused on roles & responsibility and missed the r\_\_\_\_\_ - 5:31

#### B. We’ve missed the 4 STAGES OF HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS

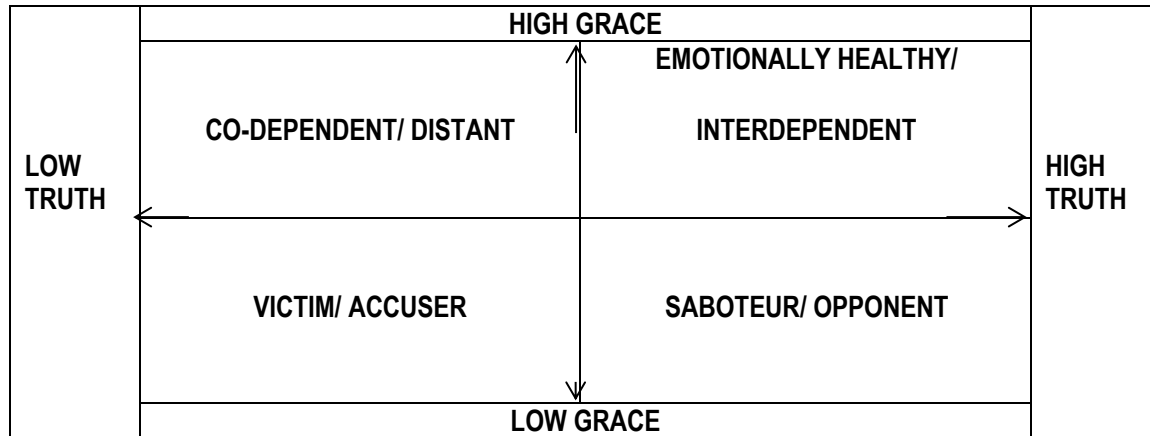
1. Infatuation
2. Reality Check
3. Work
4. Acceptance
  - As Americans we focus on stage \_\_\_\_\_
  - As Christians we focus on stages \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_
  - As American Christians we skip stage \_\_\_\_\_ - 5:32- “present tense”

#### C. We have an incomplete view on how to work on relationships

1. Forgive and forget yes, but what about growth, change, accountability?
2. It’s not all about me, yes, but it is about us, and that includes me.
3. Turn the other cheek, yes, but you will also treat me with respect.

D. The results- 3 D's

1. D\_\_\_\_\_ - buried anger & expectations
2. D\_\_\_\_\_ - the cycle of co-dependence



3. Dead marriages- committed but miserable

II. A WORD TO WIVES- submit & respect

A. Submit to who?- "their own husbands"

B. How? "as we submit to Christ"

1. Not s\_\_\_\_\_ but engaged
  - People who engaged- Gen 18:22ff, 32:26, Ps 22, 73
  - Spiritual disciplines of engagement- Prayer, Bible study- IQA, witness, B.L.E.S.S.

2. Not s\_\_\_\_\_ but delighted- Eph 5:18-21, Neh 8:10, Ps 100

Ephesians 5:33 (Amplified Bible) ...and the wife [must see to it] that she respects and delights in her husband [that she notices him and prefers him and treats him with loving concern, treasuring him, honoring him, and holding him dear]. (respect- in Heb, Greek & Websters)

❖ **TAKING IT HOME** – LITERALLY 😊 - HOW TO SPEED UP THE TWO-YEAR PROCESS

A WORD TO WIVES – HOW TO HELP YOUR HUSBANDS LOVE YOU

From For Women Only, by Shaunti Feldhahn

- 74% of men would rather feel alone & unloved, than inadequate & disrespected
- 81% of men feel loved by their wives, but not respected

- 67% of men try to look competent, but feel insecure, & worry what others think
- 84% of men on the job feel like they are in over their heads
- Only 23% of men feel actively supported by their families

➤ So, ladies, here's how to win his heart, his ear and his hand (actions)

• Step 1 – Practice Engaged Respect- 3 things guys want but won't ask for- WIN HIS HEART

1. Know he wants to make you h\_\_\_\_\_ - it makes him feel successful as a man.
  - Know he wants you to l\_\_\_\_\_ what he does for you, gets for you...
2. Know he wants you to be p\_\_\_\_\_ of him- acknowledge, praise, trust him, let him figure it out
  - Men would rather hear, "I'm proud of you" than "I love you."
3. Know he wants you to share his i\_\_\_\_\_
  - Know he wants you to initiate i\_\_\_\_\_ - that says you want him as a man.
4. One of the reasons for the 2-year gap is loss of h\_\_\_\_\_ - winsome respect can win it back

• Step 2- Negotiate for the win-win- WIN HIS EAR

1. Four steps
  - Know what you w\_\_\_\_\_
  - Know what they w\_\_\_\_\_
  - Ask for it – with confidence, clarity- write it out, practice
  - Make it a win-win, with a b\_\_\_\_\_ win for the other
2. Examples- Abraham to God, Ruth, Abigail, Esther, Daniel
3. One of the reasons for the 2-year gap- women feel powerless, and expect their husbands to mind r\_\_\_\_\_ – "It doesn't count if I have to tell him."

• Step 3- Agree on the Ground Rules- WIN HIS HAND

1. Football- men respond to agreed-upon rules
2. One of the reasons for the 2-year gap, we don't have a p\_\_\_\_\_, and small enough baby steps
3. An example – come up with your own- find a key Scripture