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HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS LEAD TO HEALTHY MARRIAGES

HEALTHY MARRIAGES ARE GOD'S PLAN.

We live in a culture that teaches:

- Love is mostly about feelings.
- Relationships are disposable.
- Happiness matters more than holiness.

Genesis 2:18-24 NLT

- Healthy marriages are not built accidentally.
- The strongest marriages are not built on emotions, attraction, money, or personality. They are built on Jesus Christ!
- Marriage is not a contract based on conditions. It is a covenant built on commitment.

HEALTHY MARRIAGES BEGIN WITH TOTAL SUBMISSION TO GOD.

Spirit-Guided Relationships: Wives and Husbands

²¹ And further, submit to one another out of reverence for Christ. ²² For wives, this means submit to your husbands as to the Lord. ²³ For a husband is the head of his wife as Christ is the head of the church. He is the Savior of his body, the church. ²⁴ As the church submits to Christ, so you wives should submit to your husbands in everything. ²⁵ For husbands, this means love your wives, just as Christ loved the church. He gave up his life for her ²⁶ to make her holy and clean, washed by the cleansing of God's word. ²⁷ He did this to present her to himself as a glorious church without a spot or wrinkle or any other blemish. Instead, she will be holy and without fault. ²⁸ In the same way, husbands ought to love their wives as they love their own bodies. For a man who loves his wife actually shows love for himself. ²⁹ No one hates his own body but feeds and cares for it, just as Christ cares for the church. ³⁰ And we are members of his body. ³¹ As the Scriptures say, "A man leaves his father and mother and is joined to his wife, and the two are united into one." ³² This

is a great mystery, but it is an illustration of the way Christ and the church are one. ³³ So again I say, each man must love his wife as he loves himself, and the wife must respect her husband. **Ephesians 5:21-33 NLT**

- A Christ-centered marriage tells the Gospel story: commitment, redemption, grace, and covenant love.
- We must pursue God personally, daily, and passionately.
- Proper Biblical discipleship leads to healthy marriages.
- Healthy marriages are impossible without dying to self. You don't deserve anything.
- Healthy marriages are made of two people continually growing spiritually.

HEALTHY MARRIAGES BUILD ON BIBLICAL TRUTH, NOT CULTURAL TRENDS.

- Culture changes constantly. God's Word does not.
- The world says: "Follow your heart."
- God says: "*Guard your heart.*" Proverbs 4:23
- The world says: "Do what makes YOU happy?"
- God says: "*Consider others above yourselves.*" Philippians 2:3

NO MARRIAGE SURVIVES WITHOUT GRACE.

¹² Since God chose you to be the holy people he loves, you must clothe yourselves with tenderhearted mercy, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. ¹³ Make allowance for each other's faults, and forgive anyone who offends you. Remember, the Lord forgave you, so you must forgive others.

¹⁴ Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds us all together in perfect harmony. **Colossians 3:12-14 NLT**

- There will be misunderstandings, failures, disappointments, and painful moments.

Most conflict in marriage comes from:

- Pride
- Selfishness
- Unmet expectations
- And unwillingness to serve

A healthy biblical marriage is built when:

- Christ is first.
- Love becomes selfless.
- Grace becomes constant.
- And both people commit to honoring God above themselves.