

MODERNfamily

MARRIAGE IS MESSY

August 23, 2015

- **Introduction.**

- God takes our messes and turns them into masterpieces.
- The pinnacle in life isn't to be happily married because another human being does not complete you. The pinnacle of life is to be married to Jesus! You're not "less than" because you're single.
- Throughout this series, if you're not currently in a TC Group, check them out. TC Groups is where you can live life together with other folks at TC.

- **Marriage is messy.**

- Invest more in your marriage than in your wedding. A wedding lasts a day but a marriage is a daily commitment for the rest of your life.
 - o How is this statement contrary to our current culture?
 - o How does Upward, Inward, Outward apply to your marriage relationship (or everyday relationships)?

- **Read and discuss Genesis 2:20-25.**

- o Why was God intentional on creating woman from the man's rib?
- o What does "hold fast" mean? As a man, how is that lived out?
- o Discuss what intimacy (into me you see) means in a marriage. (HINT: It's more than just physical)

- **God created male and female as a complementary pair like the rest of creation.**

- o Discuss how God created each complimentary pair.
- o On day seven, God rested. How is that a picture of grace?
- o How can God create in and through you?

Day 1 – God created the Heavens and the earth (Genesis 1:1-5)

Day 2 – God created the sky (Genesis 1:6-8)

Day 3 – God created dry ground (Genesis 1:9-13)

Day 4 – God created the stars and the heavenly bodies (Genesis 1:14-19)

Day 5 – God created all life that lives in the water (Genesis 1:20-23)

Day 6 – God created all creatures that live on dry land; male and female (Genesis 1:24-31)

Day 7 – God rested. (Genesis 2:2)

- **Adam and Eve's failure to trust God caused an epic mess.**

- God wants you to choose to love Him.
 - o Why did God place the tree in the garden? (HINT: choice)
 - o Discuss how the statement "hurt people hurt people" applies to Adam and Eve in this situation.
 - o Discuss the following statement, "You can't bury your past, but your past can bury you".
 - o If you're a teen or single person, ask yourself these three questions as you move into a relationship.
 - 1- Does this relationship glorify God?
 - 2- Does it make me a better person?
 - 3- Does it honor the other person?

- **Read and discuss Romans 5:12.**

- **Read and discuss Genesis 3:1-13.**

- There are some conversations you should never have.
- The devil is never going to make sin look bad.
 - o Is this scenario played out in your life today? (HINT: Blame, hurt, involving others)
 - o Why did God hold Adam responsible?
 - o Why did they hide from God?
 - o How did God show His grace?

• **Read and discuss the following:**

• **Adam & Eve Didn't:**

Trust God together

Don't make a decision unless you're in one accord.
Don't move forward until you're together.

Communicate with each other

Be intentional and slow down.
Do you hear what the other person is saying?
What does your current communication say to your spouse?
Is the man you're dating right now the type of man you want your son to be?

Cultivate their marriage

Cultivate your relationships.
Some people work harder at jobs than marriages.
Jesus will give you the ability to love.
We are imperfect people, but we have a perfect God.
Don't compare your insides with other people's outsides.

Take responsibility for their betrayal

The more you understand God's grace, forgiveness, and mercy, the more you can say "I'm sorry".
Why is it hard to admit you're wrong?
How does upward, inward, outward love change that?

• **Jesus is the better husband and you, the church, are the better bride.**

• Jesus started a new race of people called the church.

- o Discuss what it means to be the bride of Christ.
- o How does this relationship (Jesus and His Bride) transform the way we live in relationships?

• **Read and discuss Ephesians 5:25-33.**

• We're all looking for someone to love us—someone greater than ourselves. Jesus can give you that limitless life.

- o Discuss this statement, "Jesus wants to be with us not because of who we are but because of who He is".
- o How did Pastor Derwin's and Vicki's transparent conversation regarding their marriage journey encourage and challenge you?

• **Soul-tattoo:** Pray daily together.

Join a TC Group and transform together.