Purpose-Driven Marriage Pt 2 Sermon for 2-26-17

**Purpose is the mechanism that can convert any amount of effort great or small into an exponentially greater amount of power that drives the marriage farther than any one person could carry it.**

You see, if the outcome of your marriage is equal to the amount of work that you put into it, then you are not diligently working for the Lord.

Just like it would be terribly negligent of the Navy to deploy aircraft carriers that required every person on board to maintain the ship.

At that point the aircraft carrier becomes the greatest obstacle to accomplishing the Navy’s mission when it was supposed to be the Navy’s greatest asset to accomplish the mission.

**Marriage is a powerful tool meant to be one of the greatest strategies to fulfill God’s mandate to the church—Genesis 22:17—to possess the gates of God’s enemies.**

In ancient times, the gates of a city were a place where leaders of education, government, and business would meet to conduct business.

The universal purpose of marriage is to support God’s mandate to dominate places of influence over and in education, government, and business.

We learned that marriage accomplishes its purpose in 4 crucial things it was designed to provide.

1. Teamwork
2. Godly Seed
3. Illumination
4. Companionship

## Boundaries of Marriage

1. **Two adults of the opposite sex—one man and one woman.**
2. **Committed to each other for life.**
3. **The Man is the head of the home.**
4. **The Woman is to be loved sacrificially.**
5. **The Man is to make sure that every member of his family’s physical, emotional, and spiritual needs are met through diligent leadership and oversight over the worship, education, necessities, and future of the family.**
   * **1 Timothy 5:8** (NKJV)

**8**But if anyone does not provide for his own, and especially for those of his household, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever.

* + - “Provide” = showing necessary *forethought* to act properly (in God's will).
  + **God the Father both creates need and provides for the needs He creates; and He does both of these marvelous miracles by giving orders.**
  + **If God said to do it, you now have a need to do it even if you don’t feel the necessity.**
    - Examples
      * Physical necessities of life
      * Close relationships
      * Need to obey a ridiculously slow speed limit on an open road
  + Diligently leading and overseeing the family
    - Worship
      * Physical
        + Singing
        + Clapping
        + Raising Hands
        + Dancing
        + Bowing
        + Kneeling
        + Playing instruments
      * Emotional
        + Demonstrating passion for relationship with Jesus, not rules.
        + Encouraging everyone to go to God in prayer.
        + Being real in matters of worship and religion and allowing the family to be real.
      * Spiritual
        + Give orders in the house that all in the house will do acts of worship with you.
        + Bless the family in prayer.
        + Interceded for the family.
        + Be an example of a believer.
    - Education
      * Physical
        + Books and supplies.
        + Tuition.
        + Decisions of schooling.
        + Discover learning strengths and weaknesses.
        + Help with homework.
      * Emotional
        + Demonstrate a passion for learning.
        + Read books that teach you.
      * Spiritual
        + Teach your wife and children principles from the Bible.
        + Study and learn about the Bible yourself.
    - Necessities
      * Physical
      * Emotional
        + Promote an atmosphere of understanding and pay attention to each individual in the home.
        + Make time to spend in conversation and fun with each member.
        + Show emotion yourself and ask for help from the family when you need it.
      * Spiritual
        + Go to church regularly.
        + Read the Bible with everyone regularly.
        + Pray with everyone regularly.
    - Future
      * Physical
        + Financial goals
        + Health goals
        + Education goals
        + House goals
      * Emotional
        + What kind of marriage do I want in 10 years?
        + What kind of character do I want my kids to have in 10 years?
        + What kind of atmosphere do I want in my home in 10 years?
      * Spiritual
        + What unique purpose does God have for your marriage and family?
        + What spiritual goals have you defined?

## Values

Now, let’s narrow our scope from the universal purpose of marriage to each marriage’s unique purpose.

**To begin figuring out your marriage’s unique part in God’s plan look at you and your spouse’s values; then write down how they intersect.**

This work I am telling you to do is like the work that God told Habakkuk to do in Habbakuk chapter 2.

# Habakkuk 2:1-3 (NKJV)

I will stand my watch  
And set myself on the rampart,  
And watch to see what He will say to me,  
And what I will answer when I am corrected.

**2**Then the Lord answered me and said:

“Write the vision  
And make *it* plain on tablets,  
That he may run who reads it.  
**3**For the vision *is* yet for an appointed time;  
But at the end it will speak, and it will not lie.  
Though it tarries, wait for it;  
Because it will surely come,  
It will not tarry.

What you want out of your marriage may seem so far in the future that it may be impossible, it may seem that your desires are waiting out there somewhere and will never come to you. Do not give up!

Just take the time and effort to climb up to a higher perspective and write down what you see.

Spend the time to look over your marriage looking for the unique values of you and your spouse.

Then write it down plain so that you can make rapid progress in your marriage.

Every marriage will have inherent values that are unique to each marriage.

Sit down with your spouse and write down

* What you spend your money on.
* What you spend your time doing.
* What you dream about.
* What your hobbies are.
* What ticks you off.
* What makes you happy or peaceful.
* What makes you sad or tense.
* What two or three men you look up to and why you respect them.
* What two or three women you most look up to and why you respect them.

By scrutinizing your answers, you will begin to see common themes, and those themes are your values.

**After you define your values, consistently schedule your calendar and plan your finances to prioritize those values.**

Your marriage has a wonderful purpose on this earth that will impact generations to come if you will only be diligent to discover that purpose and rigorously realign yourselves to that purpose throughout life.

If there is any trouble…let us pray and seek wisdom from above.

Let us ask the Father to reveal our needs.

Let us ask the Father to give us His purpose.