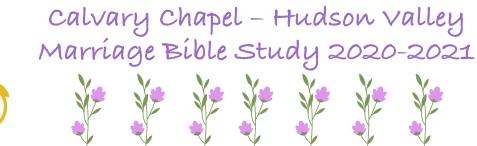
MARRIAGE: THE EVERCHANGING ADVENTURE!



MAY FOCUS: THE TRUTH SETS US FREE

A BRIEF RECAP....

Let's Embrace Our Differences.

We are different specifically so we fit together perfectly. Genesis 1:27; 2:18.

Apology and Forgiveness are both essential, both a choice.

Learning to apologize involves expressing apologies in terms that are more meaningful to our spouse. 1 John 1:9; Matthew 5:23-24.

Learning to forgive, no longer holding the offense against our spouse, removes the barrier so the relationship moves forward. Ephesians 4:32; Matthew 6:14-15; Colossians 3:12-14.

Reflect . . . Him!

1 Peter 3:8-12. All of you be of one mind, having compassion for one another; love as brothers and sisters, be tenderhearted, be courteous, not returning evil for evil or reviling for reviling, but on the contrary blessing, knowing that you were called to this, that you may inherit a blessing. He who would love life and see good days, let him refrain his tongue from evil, and his lips from speaking deceit. Let him turn away from evil and do good; let him seek peace and pursue it. For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous, and His ears are open to their prayers.

MAY FOCUS: THE TRUTH SETS US FREE

It's all about Him! Spiritual Maturity is defined as true inner freedom in Christ and the overflow that comes out of that as we are examples to our family and others around us, especially our spouse. John 8:12; 31-36.

Our <u>first</u> goal in marriage is to obey and please the Lord. As we work towards doing this first, our individual needs are often met. Proverbs 24:16; 2 Peter 1:2-4.

Marriage is a test of our devotion to Christ- a test of how we treat our spouse as we obey, honor, and please the Lord.

*My response to my spouse is my responsibility. Ephesians 5:33.

*My spouse doesn't cause me to be the way I am – my spouse reveals the way I am. Proverbs 4:23; 27:17,19; Mark 7:14-23; Luke 6:45.

*Inner freedom develops greater maturity. John 8:31-36; 1 Peter 2:16,23-25.

*God tests us to "grow" us, to strengthen us so our inner freedom will increase. 1 Timothy 4:7-10; James 1:2-4.

LOOKING AHEAD...

Reminder: Next Session will be Tuesday, June 1st.

Marriage is a Triathlon of Conflict Management

Conflict Resolution
Living with Perpetual Issues
Forgiveness

