

# Marriage

6 GOSPEL COMMITMENTS EVERY COUPLE NEEDS TO MAKE

## Marriage – Gospel Commitments – Lesson 10

### Gospel Foundations

1. The gospel shapes my expectations for marriage (Ch. 1).
2. The gospel gives me reason to continue (Ch. 2).
3. The gospel teaches me about true love (Ch. 3).
4. The gospel compels me to live for the One who died for me, in all the little moments of life (Ch. 4).

### Gospel Commitments

1. We will give ourselves to a regular lifestyle of confession and forgiveness (Ch. 5-6).
2. We will make growth and change our agenda (Ch. 7-8).
3. We will work together to build a sturdy bond of trust (Ch. 9-10).
4. We will commit to building a relationship of love (Ch. 11-12).
5. We will deal with our differences with appreciation and grace (Ch. 13-14).
6. We will work to protect our marriage (Ch. 15-17).

## Chapter 13 – Amazing Grace

### Amazing Grace #1 – The Artist of Your Marriage – God created you and your spouse.

How does this help with differences?

1. \_\_\_\_\_ your Creator (p. 235).
2. \_\_\_\_\_ to see the differences as right or wrong (p. 235).
3. Determine to respond to your differences with \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ (p. 236).
4. Learn where your differences create \_\_\_\_\_ and call yourself to \_\_\_\_\_ work (p. 236).
5. \_\_\_\_\_ where these differences challenge you to \_\_\_\_\_ (p. 237).

## Amazing Grace #2 – Planned Struggle – God has a specific plan for your marriage.

1. God is in \_\_\_\_\_ of the details of our lives (Acts 17:24-27) (p. 238).
2. He has a \_\_\_\_\_ for the situations and locations in which he places us (p. 239).
3. Marriage is one of God's \_\_\_\_\_ of personal change and growth (p. 240).
4. Three main tools of difference are used to \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ our hearts (p. 241).
  - a. Difference in personal \_\_\_\_\_.
  - b. Difference in \_\_\_\_\_, instincts, and tastes.
  - c. Differences in personal \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ and in our \_\_\_\_\_ in grace.
5. Change begins when we see these differences as \_\_\_\_\_ rather than obstructions of grace (p. 241).
6. God is \_\_\_\_\_ in your struggle (Acts 17:27) (p. 242).

### Chapter 14 – Before Dark

1. Face \_\_\_\_\_ (p. 248).
2. Deal \_\_\_\_\_ with your \_\_\_\_\_ (Ephesians 4:26-27) (p. 249).
  - a. Don't give way to \_\_\_\_\_.
  - b. Don't let the sun go down while you are still \_\_\_\_\_.
  - c. Don't give an \_\_\_\_\_ to the devil.
3. Communicate in ways that are \_\_\_\_\_ (Ephesians 4:29) (p. 251).
  - a. In ways that \_\_\_\_\_.
  - b. In ways that are \_\_\_\_\_ – that fit the moment.
  - c. In ways that \_\_\_\_\_ to the hearer.

4. Run to your \_\_\_\_\_ (p. 254).
  - a. The wise \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ in your local church.
  - b. The \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ of your local church.
  - c. The \_\_\_\_\_ of your local church.
  - d. The \_\_\_\_\_ of your local church.
  
5. \_\_\_\_\_ the lies of the enemy (p. 254).
  - a. "It's not your \_\_\_\_\_."
  - b. "You don't have \_\_\_\_\_."
  
6. \_\_\_\_\_ something new (p. 255).
  
7. Humbly \_\_\_\_\_ your ongoing struggle (p. 258).

### Discussion Questions

1. Share with your group three positive qualities of your spouse without qualification (i.e., but sometimes...). Plan to thank God for these qualities the next time you pray *with* your spouse.
2. How do these qualities balance out weaknesses in your own life?
3. How do these qualities reflect the glory of your creator?
4. What differences between you and your spouse have caused the most friction in your marriage?
5. How does a more robust view of God's sovereignty change the way you view those differences?
6. Consider the chart of traits below. Mark "m" for "me" based on where you think you land. Mark "s" for your spouse.
  - Where are you similar?
  - Where are you different?
  - How can these traits be both strengths and weaknesses?
  - How can you help one another?

	Always - 1	Usually - 2	Slightly - 3	Slightly - 3	Usually - 2	Always - 1	
Fast							Slow
Outgoing							Reserved
Bold							Timid
Calm							Excitable
Optimistic							Pessimistic
Flexible							Rigid
Artistic							Non-artistic
Athletic							Non-athletic
Loud							Quiet
Outdoors							Indoors
Trusting							Cautious
Detailed							Generalizer
Specific							Nonspecific
Planner							Disorganized
Loner							People Person
Outspoken							Reserved
Confident							Insecure
Generous							Frugal
Spender							Saver
Conventional							Unconventional
Practical							Impractical
Initiator							Follower
Responsible							Free-spirited
Punctual							Unpunctual
Aggressive							Passive

(adapted from *Preparing for Marriage God's Way* by Wayne Mack, p. 38-39).