

## **BUILDING A LASTING MARRIAGE**

### *ROOM TO BREATHE #5*

Pastor Dennis Clanton

Sunday, March 21, 2021

*“Relish life with the spouse you love Each and every day of your precarious life. Each day is God’s gift. It’s all you get in exchange For the hard work of staying alive. Make the most of each one! Whatever turns up, grab it and do it. And heartily!” (Ecclesiastes 9:9–10, Message)*

*“For husbands, this means love your wives, just as Christ loved the church. He gave up his life for her to make her holy and clean, washed by the cleansing of God’s word.” (Ephesians 5:25, NLT)*

*“But for those who are married, I have a command that comes not from me, but from the Lord. A wife must not leave her husband. But if she does leave him, let her remain single or else be reconciled to him. And the husband must not leave his wife.” (1 Corinthians 7:10–11, NLT)*

### **OUR HEAVENLY FATHER**

#### **1. DESIGNED US.**

##### a. Purpose – Oneness

*“[Jesus]said, ‘This explains why a man leaves his father and mother and is joined to his wife, and the two are united into one.’” (Matthew 19:5, NLT)*

##### b. The deception of divorce is like an amputation.

*“Since they are no longer two but one, let no one split apart what God has joined together.” (Matthew 19:6, NLT)*

#### **2. KNOWS WHAT’S BEST FOR US.**

*“For I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord. They are plans for good and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.” (Jeremiah 29:11, LB)*

#### **3. A CHRISTIAN CONFESSES AND TRUSTS GOD’S WORD.**

*“Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of Jacob’s God. There he will teach us his ways, and we will walk in his paths.” (Isaiah 2:3, NLT)*

*“There is a path before each person that seems right, but it ends in death.” (Proverbs 14:12, NLT)*

## GROWTHWORK

### SIX ACTIONS FOR EVERY MARRIAGE

#### 1. **OBEY GOD'S WORD.**

*"Your word is a lamp to guide my feet and a light for my path."* (Psalm 119:105, NLT)

#### 2. **LIVE IN CLOSE FELLOWSHIP.**

*"But if we are living in the light, as God is in the light, then we have fellowship with each other, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, cleanses us from all sin."* (1 John 1:7, NLT)

##### a. Communicate clearly.

*"Everyone enjoys a fitting reply; it is wonderful to say the right thing at the right time!"* (Proverbs 15:23, NLT)

##### b. Look for peace signs

*"A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in a setting of silver."*  
(Proverbs 25:11, ESV)

##### c. Learn the power of A.W.E.

1. Affection
2. Warmth
3. Encouragement

*"Relish life with the spouse you love"*

#### 3. **BE DEPENDENT AND SENSITIVE TO THE HOLY SPIRIT.**

*"For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God."* (Romans 8:14, NLT)

#### 4. **GUARD YOUR HEART.**

*"Guard your heart above all else, for it determines the course of your life."*  
(Proverbs 4:23, NLT)

- a. Write down your emotions.
- b. What thoughts prompted these emotions?
- c. Why are you feeling that way?
- d. Identify what want to change?

*“Fix your thoughts on what is true, and honorable, and right, and pure, and lovely, and admirable. Think about things that are excellent and worthy of praise. Keep putting into practice all you learned and received from me—everything you heard from me and saw me doing. Then the God of peace will be with you.”*  
(Philippians 4:8–9, NLT)

**5. WAIT UPON THE LORD TOGETHER.**

*“For since the world began, no ear has heard and no eye has seen a God like you, who works for those who wait for him!”* (Isaiah 64:4, NLT)

- a. Have a prayer journal.
- b. Have a prayer space.

**6. DELIGHT IN THE LORD.**

*“Take delight in the LORD, and he will give you your heart’s desires.”* (Psalm 37:4, NLT)