

Love and Marriage, Part II Jerry Arnold, November 26

Dear Lord, we ask that you would now pour out Your Holy Spirit upon this assembly. And as we open Your Word, You would be the One who teaches, You would be the One who shares with our hearts what we need to hear, and that so powerful will Your presence be here, Lord, that miracles will take place. We ask this in Jesus name, amen.

We hadn't seen her for a few years, and when we did we were excited to see her. We had heard that she had gotten married. We were happy for her, because when we had known her before, she went through a terrible painful divorce. Her husband had run off with another woman and it was just painful. It was terrible. A number of years went by, and she found a man. He was very kind and considerate. They seemed to hit it off well. When we saw her she was married to him and very happy. About a year and a half later we saw her again, and she was not happy and no longer married. She was divorced again. She told us the story. She met this fellow, and they dated for over a year. They didn't rush into anything. They become good friends. When they got married it was just wonderful for her until she noticed one day that he was putting on her pantyhose and then it went to her underwear and to the dresses in her closet. She couldn't take it. And so a divorce happened. Whether you have an opinion on cross dressing or not, a crime took place. That was the dishonesty of that man as he entered into marriage. That dishonesty is what really, really broke up that home.

You see, we are going to study today in Part 2 of "Love and Marriage," how important honesty is in the home. Last week we looked at God being love, God being the source of love, that the love that God gives us is a heaven born principle of action towards another. We also learned that there is emotion involved in romantic love. The principle of doing for another—that is the meal. The emotions—that's dessert. Too many people get married on the dessert. Consequently it ends in divorce.

God wants us to enter into marriage in love with His type of love which can only happen when God is in our lives. We need Jesus as our Savior. People who do not have Jesus as their Savior and who do not enter into marriage with the idea of sharing Christ to their spouse and helping each other get to heaven, those marriages have very, very little chance of success or survival. And so, as we study love and marriage today, instead of God is love, we are going to see that John says God is light. With that concept we are going to build a theological platform for honesty and integrity in the home.

Let's begin in Genesis chapter 1. In Genesis chapter 1 God is introduced to mankind in his word. Gen 1:1-4 says, "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. The earth was without form, and void; and darkness was on the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters. Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. And God saw the light, that it was good; and God divided the light from the darkness." There is the introduction of God to humanity. In the beginning He is there. The earth was without form. It is void. God organizes it and He creates light. In His principles light and darkness cannot dwell together. There's a chemical

impossibility. Light will overtake darkness. We are introduced to God as being a God of light.

When you come to the New Testament to John chapter 1, John will introduce Jesus to us in the same way. John 1:1 says, “In the beginning (same phrase) was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through Him and without Him nothing was made that was made. In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it.”

Let’s continue reading in verse 6. “There was a man sent from God whose name was John. This man came for a witness to bear witness of the Light, that all through Him might believe. He was not that light but was sent to bear witness of that light. That was the true light which gives light to every man who comes into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, and the world did not know Him. He came to His own and His own did not receive Him.” Now verses 12 and 13 are good news for us. “But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in his name: who were born not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.” Jesus is introduced to us as being the source of light.

John will record a conversation Jesus has in John chapter 3:19-21. These were the words of Jesus. He says this, “And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. And everyone practicing evil hates the light and does not come to the light lest his deeds should be exposed. But he who does the truth comes to the light that his deeds may be clearly seen that they have been done in God.”

There’s something about the way God has set up his universe. Light and darkness do not dwell together. And you do things in the light that are in His presence that are true. Truth, honesty, integrity dwell in the light. It’s in the darkness that evil occurs and takes place. So the Lord will encourage us to stay in the light. In fact, He says the condemnation to humanity is not that there isn’t light but that man preferred darkness instead of light. He has given us light. He has given us Himself. He’s given us eternal life. He’s given us the capacity through His grace to live and dwell in the light. That’s salvation. But many people choose to dwell in the darkness. Jesus says that’s the condemnation. That’s it. It was offered but they refused to enter into the light.

Now let’s go to the same author to 1 John chapter 1. Last week we read in 1 John 4:8 that God is love. Here in 1 John 1:5 we are going to read that God light. “This is the message which we have heard from Him and declare to you, that God is light and in Him is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with Him and walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth”—powerful point here. If we say we are walking with the Lord, but we are dwelling and living in darkness, it’s a lie. “But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.” We will come back to this text because it is telling us that the fellowship that is blessed by God is fellowship that is done in the light.

Unfortunately in our homes, darkness has set in in many homes. It's not in the light anymore and consequently there's no more fellowship in the home. And so man or woman is looking for fellowship outside the home, and the homes are breaking up.

Let's go to 1 John 2:8, "Again, a new commandment I write to you, which thing is true in Him and in you, because the darkness is passing away and the true light is already shining. He who says he is in the light and hates his brother is in darkness until now." Now I'm going to rephrase that because this is a principle that is being stated here. He who says he is in the light and hates his wife is in darkness until now. He who says he is in the light and hates her husband is in darkness until now. He who loves his wife, or she who loves her husband, abides in the light and there is no cause for stumbling in him.

It is imperative if we are going to save our homes that we learn to walk in the light. In these passages that we've looked at, light and truth are all associated together. We simply call it honesty. Do any of you know the definition of integrity which is a twin sister of honesty? Integrity is where we are the same person wherever we are. We are the same person at home that we are at work. We are the same person in the church. We are the same person in the neighborhood. That is integrity.

One of the reasons why teenagers are able to point out hypocrites so easily is because they are hypocrites. When they hang out with the jocks they are all into sports, when they hang out with the people who are motor cross bikers they are into that, when they hang out with this group they are into that. They are trying to figure out who they are. And we understand that in adolescence, but as adults it is wrong. We need to be the same in the home that we are in the workplace. Unfortunately, because people are not dwelling in the light, the secretary gets all the man's patience and when he comes home the wife gets none. That is not honest, and that is not having integrity. That is walking and dwelling in the dark.

Roman 13:13—lets look at that. We've got two more passages as we build our theological platform. Then we are going to make application. Romans 13:13 Paul is writing this. He says, "Let us walk properly as in the day, not in revelry and drunkenness, not in licentiousness and lewdness, not in strife and envy." In the Old King James Version it says, "let us walk honestly as in the day." I've read to you from the New King James Version, "let us walk properly." The New International Version says, "let us behave decently ". The Amplified Version says, "let us behave honorably and becomingly." The New American Standard says, "behave properly." It's all associated with integrity. It's all associated with honesty. It's all associated with walking in the light.

Hebrews 13:18 is our last text about a platform of theology. Heb 13:18 says, "Pray for us, for we are confident that we have a good conscious in all things desiring to live honorably." New King James Version says, "to live honorably." The King James Version says, "live honestly." The New International Version says, "live honorably." Do you want to know what the Amplified Version says? This is taking the Greek word and putting it into the English language with its full meaning. It says, "to live a noble life

acting honorably and in complete honesty in all things.” Relationships only work when we walk in the light, when we are honest.

Let’s make an application now to those of you who are not married. There are some principles that I want to teach you that I hope will help you. First of all, when you are dating someone, do not pretend to be something you are not in order to get that person’s affections. That is stealing. Actually fellows, when a young girl is raised, her affections are to be to her parents. And if you come in conniving around and acting like somebody you really aren’t in order to get her affections, you are stealing from her parents, and if you say, “Oh good, her parents are gone,” she has a Father in heaven who is watching. You are not going to get away with it.

Ladies, if you change the way you really are in order to get his affections, that is stealing from his parents. And if his parents are gone, he has a Father in heaven who is watching him. Do not be something you are not in order to have the affections of another person. That is short term at best. Because after you get married the mask is torn off, and you are in her closet trying on her clothes, that marriage is not going to work. You need to be honest, up front. Amen?

Now here’s another thing in the same realm. God has blessed many of you young adults with Godly parents. If they’re not godly, this doesn’t apply. Because I don’t think you’d take counsel from an ungodly parent. I don’t believe it has the weight. But if you have godly parents and you are dating somebody, and they sit you down and they say, “You are just not yourself when you are with that person.” You better listen. If you have friends and they say, “You’re not yourself when you are with that person.” You better listen. God is trying to get your attention. Don’t be something you are not in order to have the affections of someone else. That cannot last long. To live in the light and to dwell in the light means to be honest. Trust me, when you marry somebody you want them to know who you are and to be happy with that. If you’re a man you just have to understand she’s planning on changing you a little bit, but she’s got to accept you pretty much for what you are.

When we get married we have a warranty. It says “as is.” In fact, you might not realize this, but during courtship when you are ascertaining whether this is the person for me or not, that’s when you have a right to ask questions, that’s when you have a right to doubt, that’s when you have a right to talk about their weaknesses and flaws and all that. Once you get married you have already signed on “as is.” You can’t get up in the morning and say, “Man, I’ve got to get this person changed.” It doesn’t work. You are not walking in the light.

First thing, do not to pretend to be something you are not. Be yourself. Second thing, do not date anyone you would not seriously consider marrying. Dating is not for fun. Courtship in the scriptures is to see if this person is compatible with me that we can serve God together for the rest of our lives. In fact, if you cannot serve God better with that person, God is not leading you with them. The purpose of marriage is two people serving God to get together, and they can do more together than they can do alone. So don’t date

someone you wouldn't marry. If you're in a group with people, great, that's fine. Talk, laugh, have a good time. But don't call somebody up arrange a date, and spend the money, spend the time, spend the resources, don't bother doing it unless you would seriously consider them to marry.

Know and understand this ladies and men, every date you go on you are being studied. You want to be on your best behavior and I'll tell you why. Because the way you act while you are dating needs to be the way you act the rest of your life if you marry them. That will keep that home together, right? Two people muttered something. I don't even know what they said.

In this realm of light, love and honesty, don't string someone along waiting until someone better comes along. Be honest. Be right up front with them. In fact, let me give you an illustration for those of you who are single. You got a woman, and you got a man. They begin dating. They like each other. In fact, they become a thing, whatever that means. They are a couple. People identify them together. At some point they need to begin praying together to discern God's will for their future. I don't encourage you to do that on the first night, fellows. It will scare her. But sometime fairly soon in the relationship these two people need to be on their knees together asking God's will. In fact, I may do a sermon on how to date. Because it's a lot different than what most of us think. You've got to imagine Jesus cruising around in the vehicle with you. That's what real Biblical dating is. I know I would behave differently.

You have a woman, you have a man. There they are—typical situation. They date for so long, and if all of a sudden he becomes irritating to her or her to him, and one of them decides there's no future, they will call up the other one. They'll notice the coldness, you know how it goes. Then one of them is going to say to the other one. It's over. There's just no future for us. What question is the other one going to ask? Why? And you know what? They are never going to get the real answer. It's too painful. We don't want to tell somebody we don't like the way they smack their lips or we're just tired of the smell of their feet or whatever it is. "It's just irritating being with you." "I just don't like you anymore." We don't want to say that. So we kind of dance around a little bit. We don't really tell them exactly what the truth is. That person goes home absolutely crushed. They are filled with insecurities. They were born with a sinful nature. They've got a lot of problems. They will just go through the list, "Oh no, it's this, it's that," and they will spend months trying to recover from that.

Here's how it's suppose to work. Man and woman on their knees before God together. They are only asking for God's will in their life and in this relationship, because this relationship is going one or two directions. They are either going to be a brother and sister in Christ, or they are going to end up romantically inclined and married if that is God's will. That's it. Those are the options. So in the context of spirituality and walking in the light, if one of them, either one, the man or the woman, becomes convicted by God that there is not a future with this person as a life's companion, then they inform the other one they've been told on the spiritual level that they are going to be brother and sister in Christ, but they are not going to be married.

Now the other person is still going to ask why. The answer is “I just believe it in my heart.” Is this person going to be hurt, or that person? Absolutely, because we all have hopes, we have dreams. Could this be the one? And we want it to be the one. But it’s not as devastating as the other way where “Well, I just no longer like you.” No, we are into seeking God’s will, and if God indicates to either one it’s not His will to marry that person, that is end of discussion, end of debate. Now we can move forward. If you haven’t been foolish in your behavior, I mean physically, it’s much easier to make that break. So have honesty, light and love when you are in the process of dating. You need to be honest.

Another thing, for those of you who are single, when it comes to the point where you are seriously considering this individual, you need to be honest with them about your past. If you have a sordid past, they have a right to know. It’s not fair for them not to know where you’ve been. They have a right to see that God has changed you.

Last January we had a man come speak to the pastors. This man is a professional counselor. He says that when he talks to people about marriage, he has them do this, especially for the women. Before you say yes to a man, get his checkbook and look through it. Before you say yes to a man, get the account of his charge account and look through them. Before you say yes to a man, look at the books and magazines in his house. Before you say yes to a man, get access to his computer and check out every website—before you say yes to a man. Because where he is spending his time and his money is where his values are.

Now if you’re a young man and you say, “I can’t take that kind of scrutiny,” then change. You are not ready to be married. Unless you are in the light by yourself, you have no right to be courting a woman. Get right with Jesus and change your life. If you are ashamed where you are spending your money, if you’re ashamed of where you are spending your time, if you are ashamed of the porn sights, get rid of it. Get Jesus in your life. Walk in the light. Then you are marriage material. If you are not willing to do this you are not marriage material.

Anytime, any place, anywhere my wife can go through my drawers, and she can go through my billfold. There’s absolutely nothing there to surprise her. Why? Because I’m attempting by God’s grace to walk in the light. And fellows you have a right to look at her check book, charge accounts, see what books and magazines she reads and check out her websites. You have that right as well.

Look at I John 1:7. We’re coming back to this passage about fellowship. “But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another.” Fellowship in the light is a Godly thing. Let me share with you the process of attraction. There can be some physical attraction initially. Usually there is. He’s kind of handsome. She’s pretty. That is initial. You notice the hair and the teeth and different things like that. But you know what, you see men and you see women all the time. So

that doesn't really go that far. In fact, I'm going to blow the doors off some of your theories of why adultery takes place in just a moment.

So you have these two people. They become attracted to each other physically. But what really, really creates attraction is when they are able to converse to one another. You see, the most romantic thing that two human beings can do is to sit down quietly, look into each others eyes and to talk. That is the absolute most romantic thing. Read the books fellows. If you want to romance some girl, you really want to create the environment, you go to a quiet place in a restaurant, you got candlelight there, the music is down low, who cares what you eat, you just talk, talk, sharing from the heart.

What attracts a man to a woman is that this woman, for some reason, is interested in him, and as he begins to share his insecurities, which every man has, as he begins to share his inequities, his inabilities, his fears and all that, we all have them, she accepts them, she embraces them, she not only embraces them, but nurtures him in this process, and that man begins to fall in love. Why? Because he's not sharing those ideas with the guys in the locker room, he's not sharing those things with his brother, he's not sharing those things with any other person on earth. When that woman begins to listen to him and not reciprocate with, "Man, you are a coward," or "You're a pansy," or you know what the guys in the locker room would say, right? This guy begins to fall in love. When a woman has a man who will listen to her she begins to think, "Wow, this is what my soul is longing for—a soul mate, someone that we can converse back and forth." So conversation begins. Someone develops a little bit of attention, a little bit of caring. Conversation begins, and a bond develops.

Now let me share something with you, brothers and sisters. The devil knows the process. So here's what he does. He finds two people that are married, and he will get them angry at each other. He will get them upset. He will get them to where they are not caring anymore, where they are not showing attention, where conversation has died and that bond is being ripped apart. That's his program. Then she will go off to work, or he will go off to work, and there will be somebody there who will pay attention.

Now ladies, it's not the beauty of a woman that causes a man to leave his spouse. It is attention. If you're not telling him he's handsome, if you're not telling him you appreciate him, if you're not telling him you are glad to be under his wings, there is a woman out there willing to say that, and he will be attracted to her. And fellows, the same is true for the woman. If you are not tender and affectionate to her, her heart longs for that, somebody begins to whisper kind things to her, and her heart will be drawn to that person, and the devil knows that.

So every one of you who is married, there is somebody out there lurking—every one of you. That person is willing to give you time, to give you attention, willing to tell you you're handsome or willing to tell you that you're pretty. They are there, and the devil will work hard to get you to begin to be affectionate toward them because you are getting attention.

Now ladies, I want to share from the heart here. It's not the pretty woman that gets the man. I have seen adultery take place with some ugly women. I'm serious. I mean you sit back and say, "Why in the world?" But that woman got to that man's heart. She encouraged him. She spoke words, he listened, and he felt he could share with her. And the desire to be with that person begins to grow. They will get up and dress up a little more to go to work, work a little harder, get there a little earlier, work a little later, just to be around them. And it goes on and on and on until there are terrible consequences.

Now I have some rules for you. A married woman cannot have a man other than her husband as a confidant. Did you hear what I said? A married woman cannot have a man other than her husband as a confidant. There is no man out there for you married women other than your husband that God wants you to confide in. That's His rules. I'm not making it up. And a married man cannot have a woman other than his wife as a confidant. There is no other woman out there for you to confide in, men, than the wife God has gifted you with. That's how it works. And you are never to be alone with a man or a woman—never alone.

I read a story last week about a man. He's vice president of a large company down in Florida. He's vice president of sales. The people that are involved in sales from the other companies that are selling things, they always do it with lunch appointments. Most of the people in the sales are women, single women, attractive women, aggressive women, trying to make a name, trying to make a mark, and they are we've come a long way baby type women. This guy was a Christian man. He says he's not ever going to go to lunch with a woman alone. He's going to honor his wife. He's going to honor God. And so he refused to do it.

And sure enough these ladies were calling saying, "We've got to go out to lunch, got to go out for lunch," "No I can't make it, can't make it." This one particular woman was very aggressive a very successful salesperson. She kept calling and calling and calling. He kept saying, "No, I can't make it, I can't make it." Finally she confronted him outright. "What is wrong, we need to get together and talk." He felt like, "Oh brother here it comes. It will be like kissing a bobcat. Get your face clawed off." He said, "Well, I'm a Christian man, married to a Christian woman, and I will not under any circumstances have lunch alone with a woman." The claws came out and she was really ready to scratch him, but she pulled them back in and she said, "I've never heard of that. Can we talk more about it?" Ultimately, he led her to Christ. She told him that in that line of work he's the only man she had ever met who had those principles. All the other men were on the take and looking. Most of the women were too. And these little innocent business lunches were just opportunities for hearts to bond to go off and to be involved physically in another sphere.

Never be alone with a man or woman. You see, it is being alone and intimate that creates attraction. Keep that for the one you're married to. Let me prove this to you scripturally. We need to stand on the word of God. Amen? Look at Proverbs 5:3. It says, "For the lips of an immoral woman drip honey. Her mouth is smoother than oil." "Hey, big guy." You know you've seen the movies, the caricatures of Southern women who are just over

the top. "I want a handsome man." They are doing that for a reason. It's successful. This woman with honey all over her lips, this immoral woman, that's how a man is ensnared. It's not by her beauty. Oh, that will come. But it comes after that.

In fact, let me prove that to you. Look at Proverbs 6:24. It's talking about the law of God, "to keep you from the evil woman from the flattering tongue of a seductress, do not lust after her beauty in your heart nor let her allure you with her eyelids." That's secondary. What happens first is just flat out being flattered, being made to feel like a man again. Most homes break up through adultery for the simple reason people have forgotten what it feels like to be alive. They are living with a dead spouse in a dead relationship. They are both in darkness and somebody comes along and says, "Hey baby," "Hey guy." And all of a sudden, life begins to happen again, and that's when danger sets in. That is why it is imperative that we walk in the light in honesty and we keep the dating relationship going through marriage.

Fellows, I am going to teach you how to treat your wives. Turn to Song of Solomon chapter 2. By the way I gave you an assignment last week. Find an easy English Bible and read that book with your mate and see if it doesn't get you excited. Oh, I'm sorry. I skipped a verse and we need this verse. Hold you hand here in Song of Solomon and turn to I Peter 3:6. It says, "Sarah obeyed Abraham calling him Lord. And every man said, (Amen!). The rest were cowards. You six guys I want you as bodyguards. "Sarah obeyed Abraham calling him Lord, whose daughters you are if you do good and are not afraid of any terror. Likewise you husbands, (this is how you are supposed to dwell with your wife) dwell with them with understanding giving honor to the wife as the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life that your prayers may not be hindered." You are to work together spiritually. You are not the high priest know it all type of guy in the home according to God. You are to work together in the grace of life. She is a weaker vessel. You are to understand her. You are to give honor to her. Here you discover that the two things that all psychiatrists say we need are right here in the scriptures. Man wants to be respected. Woman wants to be loved.

Now I'm going to teach you how to love your wife. Go back to Song of Solomon. By the way, fellows, if you do not do this your prayers will be hindered. That's what Peter said. If you are not loving your wife, you are living in darkness, your prayers are not going to be heard. Song of Solomon chapter 2:14. Here is Solomon speaking to his wife. "Oh my dove in the clefts of the rock, in the secret places of the cliff, let me see you countenance, let me hear your voice, for your voice is sweet and your countenance is lovely." The woman is likened to this little precious dove, one of the most fragile creatures on earth. This beautiful white dove with the dark eyes. It's there hiding in the rocks. Why? Because a woman is seeking security and safety. She is not wanting just to give her heart to anyone. This man must come, he must woo her, he must talk to her, he must spend time with her, he must be patient with her, he must be affectionate with her, he must share with her and in so doing she feels confident enough to come out from the cleft of the rock and to spend time with him.

Fellows, remember how you treated her when you dated and go back to it. Treat her with love, kindness, be affectionate and listen to her. Listen to her. And listen to her over and over and over again. She is a weaker vessel. She requires care on a level that you do not. But don't compare her with your brother or the guys in the locker room. She is a weaker vessel. She requires more care. Every woman enters into marriage with a package. When you unwrap it, it simply says, "needy."

Now look at Proverbs 19:22. In every version of the Bible I could find, it says the way it does here except in the New International Version. It says here in verse 22, what is desired in a man is kindness and a poor man is better than a liar." In the New International Version it kind of implies that what a man desires is kindness. But in every other version of the Bible it says what is desired in a man that he be kind. That's what your wife wants, dear brother. That you would be kind to her, you would be affectionate to her, you would consider her that fragile little dove are you are to bring her into your care and watch over her and tenderly regard her. Pet her softly, be gentle to her. That dove will begin to coo and that dove will begin to sing. "Some of you are thinking man, but that dove has pecked me till I bled." Oh yea, you can't rush in there. You got to give time till that dove comes out on their own free will. In fact, let me show you about a dove that pecks.

Go to proverbs 21:9. We're going to look at the man's side of things now, ladies. How you are suppose to love him, how you are supposed to show respect. "It is better to dwell in the corner of a housetop than in the house shared with a contentious woman." A contentious woman—that means some lady is spitting venom everywhere she goes, just spitting venom. The guys just stand back. Wow, don't get around her. Look at Proverbs 14:1. It says every wise woman builds her house, but the foolish pulls it down with her hands a brick at a time and she's throwing them at her mate.

Now ladies, I disagree with much of what is written in psychology regarding counseling methods. Almost everything I have ever read says the woman understands relationships. You talk to her and you can figure things out. Listen, women don't know a think about relationship. They fight with their mothers, they fight with their daughters, they fight with their sisters, they are in a fight with somebody all the time. The poor guy, he's just trying to get through life. He just wants to mow the yard and weedeat. He comes in and there's a new crisis every day. And it's all in relationships. Ladies you've got to get a grip. You need to learn to pray. You need to learn to have confidence in God. You need to trust in Him.

I want to share something with you. This is extremely important ladies, extremely important. I don't want any men here to elbow their wife. I don't want you to flinch. I just want you to sit quietly, don't nod, don't flinch, don't say a thing. But here's where it's at. The reason that man married you is because you created an environment where he could be honest with you. He could be venerable. And the one thing you want ladies above everything else is for him to continue doing that, because that's what creates intimacy. That's the bond that you're longing for.

But let me tell you how you tear that home apart. That man opens his heart and he shares with you. Three months later in the heat of an argument when you are out of control you bring that back and just rub it in his face and talk about his weaknesses or how he never follows through or whatever he's confided in you and you bring that up and you paw the guy to death and you wonder why he's not going to do it again. We live a life of not sharing, because you can't share with the guys, you can't share with your brother. You can't share with anybody. And when we find a woman we can share with we are going to stay with her. But when she turns around and beats us up with it, we're not sharing with you either, and you've have lost the very thing you want.

There's another thing you need to know, ladies. We have a young adult group that comes to our house every Thursday—25-35 year old single people. Every week we begin and we go around and give our name and we share something. This week I said, "I want you to give your name and share the last argument you had with your mother." Very, very telling. Nearly every woman there could remember that argument. Not one man could. Boys don't argue with their mothers. Especially, men don't argue with their mothers. Men don't like to argue with women period. Women love to argue. They consider it an act of love to be in a good argument. But your husband doesn't. It's a threat to him. You are clawing his eyes out. He doesn't like it. He's uncomfortable. You're going to clam him up.

Deal with it on an entirely different level. Be more generous and kind. Hey, we are just boys after all. Men don't like to argue like that. Women, they are used to it. They argue and argue and argue. They think this is it. It's amazing to listen to women go at it and the next thing you know they are, "Hey, how are you doing?" "I'm just fine." It doesn't work that way with your husband. You are going to cut him off and he will find someone who won't argue. The devil will work hard. We need to walk in honesty and light. "If we walk in the light as He is in the light we will have fellowship with one another and the blood of Jesus Christ His son will cleanse us from all sin."

I don't know what your household is like, but I guarantee you it is under attack. Satan is doing everything he can to destroy it. If you are single, he's doing everything to set you up with the wrong person. The only hope for any of us is to walk in the light as He is in the light. We need Jesus as our Savior. When we have Jesus as our Savior and we walk with Him, then we will have the homes He wants us to have. You will have a little bit of heaven right here on earth. Instead of a hell, you will have a heaven. If you want to say to Jesus today, "I want You to be my Savior, I want You to dwell in my heart," I'm going to ask you to stand right where you're at.