

Getting Started

Discuss the truth of this statement:

Everyone is made for relationship – relationship with God – with each other – relationships define our lives.

This series, After I Do, will focus on God-honoring relationships within marriages and families. Discuss how every person at Calvary, whether married, single, divorced, or widowed may be challenged and encouraged through this series.

Discussion

- Define and discuss the differences between relationships built upon a “contract” versus a “covenant”.

Contract:

Covenant:

- Share examples of where you have approached a relationship more like a contract than a covenant.

The Bible speaks of seven major covenants, four of which (Abrahamic, Palestinian, Mosaic, Davidic) God made with the nation of Israel. Of those four, three are unconditional in nature; that is, regardless of Israel's obedience or disobedience, God still will fulfill these covenants with Israel. One of the covenants, the Mosaic Covenant, is conditional in nature. That is, this covenant will bring either blessing or cursing depending on Israel's obedience or disobedience. Three of the covenants (Adamic, Noahic, New) are made between God and mankind in general, and are not limited to the nation of Israel.

- Discuss the covenants that God made with Adam (Gen 3:16-19), Noah (Gen 9), Abraham (Genesis 12:1-3, 6-7; 13:14-17; 15; 17:1-14; 22:15-18), Moses (Exodus 20, Deut 11:26-28), David (2 Samuel 7:8-16).? Which ones were conditional/unconditional? What is the “New Covenant” in Jeremiah 31:31-34?
- What changes will you make in order to commit to others in an unconditional covenantal way as you grow to love others like Jesus has loved us?
 - What would need to change in your marriage, your family?
 - Your relationships within the body of Christ?

- What do these passages teach us about the marriage covenant?
 - Hebrews 13:4
 - Matthew 19:6
 - Malachi 2:1
 - Proverbs 2:16-17
- What do these passages teach us about our relationship with God?
 - Lamentations 3:22-23
 - Romans 8:38-39

Prayer

Join us for the next 30 days as we pray for our marriages and families. If you do not receive the daily email prayer chain, contact Pastor Mike (medelman@cfdowningtown.com) to get started.

Join our Sunday Morning Prayer Team and intercede for others in our church family. Contact Pastor Mike.

Write a prayer request on the prayer wall in the Prayer Chapel. There are helpful prayer cards to guide your praying for your wife, husband, marriage, children and family. These cards are filled with scriptures that guide you to begin praying God's Word.

Stormie Omartian has a number of excellent books related to this series.

- The Power of a Praying Husband
- The Power of a Praying Wife
- The Power of a Praying Parent
- The Power of Praying for Your Adult Children
- The Power of Praying for Your Grandchildren

Join us on 9/21 for our Fresh Encounter Prayer Gathering, 7pm in the Loft, as we pray for our relationships, marriages, and families.