

Essential Understandings

- Contention or Conflict
 - Resolution
 - Brokenness
 - Forgiveness
 - Restoration

Essential Understandings

Resolution

- Principle: Mt. 5.23: “Therefore if you bring your gift to the altar, & there re-member that your brother has something against you, go...first be reconciled...”
- “reconciled”=to be restored to normal relations; change feelings towards; make peace
- Cf. 1 Sam. 15.22; Is. 1.10-17; Hos. 6.6; Am. 5.21-24

Essential Understandings

Resolution

- Incongruous: To bring worship to the Lord & not obey in being reconciled one to another (Cf. 1 Sam. 15.22; Is. 1.10-17; Hos. 6.6; Am. 5.21-24)
- Men: You must take the lead here; do not let things remain unaddressed
- Do not make the same mistake of Adam
- Goal: Not to win the argument; but to restore the relationship

Essential Understandings

Resolution

- Principle: Mt. 18.15: "...if your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault between you and him alone...."
- Cf. Prov. 25.9: "Debate your case with your neighbor & do not disclose your secret to another"
- Insight: Settle this with your spouse; not your parents or friends or co-workers

Essential Understandings

Brokenness

- Brokenness: "...You do not desire sacrifice...the sacrifices of God are a broken spirit...a contrite heart ...You will not despise" (Ps. 51.16-17)
- Brokenness: "...but on this one will I look—on him who is of a poor & contrite spirit & who trembles at my Word" (Is. 66.2)

Essential Understandings

Brokenness

- Brokenness: Josiah—"...because your heart was tender and you humbled yourself before the Lord when you heard what I spoke...and you tore your clothes and wept...I also heard you..." (2 Kg. 22.19)
- Insight: Both parties must be trembling at the Word of God that applies to your portion of the problem

Essential Understandings

Brokenness

- Insight: Treat your sin as the only sin in the entire room—"...the tax collector...beat his breast...'God, be merciful to me THE sinner..." (Lk. 18.11-14)
- Insight: The one justified is not the one monitoring the other party
- Insight: True brokenness is tested in your response when the issue comes up again

Essential Understandings

Brokenness

2 Cor. 7.11: Evidences of repentance

1. Diligence: earnest care or extremely concerned about the matter; not indifferent (part of the phrase for #2)
2. Clearing: Taking definitive & determined action in order to end the indictment; not self defense

Essential Understandings

Brokenness

2 Cor. 7.11: Evidences of repentance

4. Indignation: Appropriate displeasure or opposition or anger against the sin
5. Fear: Reconstituted fear of the Lord—right accountable attitude toward God
6. Longing or Vehement desire: Recognizing a lack & thus a deep desire to have that remedied—i.e. Paul's absence

Essential Understandings

Brokenness

2 Cor. 7.11: Evidences of repentance

6. Zeal: Deep concern or devotion, in this case, to reestablish God's glory, restore the sinner, clean up the situation
7. Vindication: Appropriate penalty or justice for the wrong and wrong doer

Essential Understandings

Forgiveness

- Definition: Col. 1.14; Eph. 1.7—
"forgive" =the act of freeing one from an obligation; sending away
- Definition: Col. 3.13; Eph. 4.32—
"forgive"=grant freely as an underserved favor

Essential Understandings

Forgiveness

- Insight: Releasing or sending away another's wrongs will be an undeserved favor to your spouse
- Insight: Enough cannot be done to earn it
- Question: How do you forgive your spouse?

Essential Understandings

Forgiveness

- Psalm 103.11-12: "...as high as the heavens are above...so...is His mercy...as far as the east is from the west, so far has He removed our transgressions from us..."
- Cf. Lev. 16.15-16, 20-22: The goat sacrificed & the goat released—never found
- Question: How do you forgive your spouse?

Essential Understandings


Forgiveness

- Romans 8.1: “There is therefore now **no condemnation** to those who are in Christ Jesus...”
- “condemnation”=to judge guilty & settle the case with appropriate with penalty
- Question: How do you forgive your spouse?

Essential Understandings

Forgiveness

- Heb. 8.12: “For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their lawless deeds I will remember no more”
- Insight: How can a God who knows all not remember something?
- Question: How do you forgive your spouse?
- Stand: Ready to forgive as if already settled in the court of heaven (Luke 17.4)

A glowing red circle is centered on a dark background. The circle has a bright yellow-orange inner glow and a darker red outer glow. Inside the circle, the text "...I will remember no more..." is written in a light yellow, sans-serif font.

"...I will
remember
no more..."

Essential Understandings

Restoration

- 2 Cor. 2.6-11: "...you ought rather to forgive and comfort...reaffirm you love to him..."
- "forgive"=gracious gift or act; undeserved
- "comfort"=call to one's side or along side
- "reaffirm"=confirm, ratify, validate in a legally binding manner

Essential Understandings

Restoration

- 2 Cor. 2.6-11: "...lest Satan should take..."
- Problem: Reinvestment of trust—it was violated once...will you expose yourself to this risk again?
- Understanding: This is what you are asking the offended to do...it cannot be demanded nor expected by the offender; its earned
- Satan: He uses these emotions to keep marriages separated in heart and body

Essential Understandings

Restoration

- Gal. 6.1: “if a man is overtaken in any trespass restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness, considering yourself lest you be...”
- “restore”=to make someone completely adequate for something or function well; to cause to be fully qualified
- Insight: This is what spouses do one with another on a regular basis and on a special basis

Essential Understandings

Restoration

- Gal. 6.1: "...restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness, considering yourself lest you be..."
- "gentleness/meekness"=your strength under control due to your trust in His ability to handle the situation irrespective of you; outwardly it looks like mild, soft, gentle; inwardly--pure reliance upon God

Essential Understandings

Restoration

- Gal. 6.1: "..., considering yourself lest you be tempted..."
- "consider"=to pay careful attention to; watch out for
- Insight: The reason one must be meek in handling restoring brother, is due to the restorer's own vulnerability for the same sin
- Insight: This situations demands your own humility