BIBLE BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY FALL LECTURE SERIES 11-13-15

Dr. Caswell A. Reeves

PREPARATION FOR A CHRISTIAN MARRIAGE

I. The Pastor's Role in the Christian Marriage (TEACH)

A. Give the Standard - the Scripture

2 Tm:3:16,17: All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: 17: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.

B. Preach the Standard - the Scripture

2 Tm:4:2: Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine.

C. Teach the Standard - the Scripture

1. By Exhortation / Encouraging

Ti:1:9: Holding fast (cleaving to) the faithful word as he hath been taught, that he may be able by sound doctrine both to exhort and to convince the gainsayers.

2. By Rebuke / Correcting

Ti:1:13: This witness is true. Wherefore rebuke them sharply, that they may be sound in the faith;

3. By Speaking / Uttering

Ti:2:1: But speak thou the things which become sound doctrine:

4. By Example / Pattern

1 Tim:4:11,12: 11: These things (*godliness v.8*) command and teach. 12: Let no man despise thy youth; but be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity. Ti:2:7: In all things shewing thyself a pattern of good works: in doctrine shewing uncorruptness, gravity, sincerity,

5. By Practical Advice

Husband love your wife - Eph.5:25; 1 Pet:3:7: dwelling with them Wife submit to your husband - Eph.5:22-24; Col:3:18

Couple and finances - 1 Tim:6:6-8: godliness more important than gain having food and raiment be content

D. Sharing - that Marriage is a growing experience in getting to know each other, which will continue throughout the rest of their marriage.

1 Peter 3:7 Likewise, ye husbands, dwell with them according to knowledge.

II. The Parents' Role in the Christian Marriage (TEACHING)

A. The Father's Role

- 1. Take the Leadership Josh:24:15: And if it seem evil unto you to serve the LORD, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.
- **2.** *Teach the children* Deut:6:7: And thou shalt teach them diligently unto Thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and When thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up.
- 3. Discipline the children Eph.6:1-4: Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right. 2: Honour thy father and mother; (which is the first commandment with promise;) 3: That it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth. 4: And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.

B. The Mother's Role

- 1. Teach the young women to be sober (Titus 2:4)
- 2. Teach the young women to love their husbands (Titus 2:4)
- 3. Teach the young women to love their children (Titus 2:4)
- 4. Teach the young women to be discreet (Titus 2:5)
- 5. Teach the young women to be chaste (Titus 2:5)
- 6. Teach the young women to be keepers at home (Titus 2:5)
- 7. Teach the young women to be good (Titus 2:5)
- 8. Teach the young women to be obedient to their own husbands that the word of God be not blasphemed (Titus 2:5).

III. The Couples' Role in the Christian Marriage (TEACHABLE)

A. The Couple's Role in the Marriage

1. Submitting to one another. Ephesians 5:21; Philippians 2:3 Eph.5:21: Submitting yourselves one to another in the fear of God. Phil.2: 3: Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves.

2. Being agreeable with one another. I Peter 3:8; Amos 3:3

1 Pet.3: 8: Finally, be ye all of one mind, having compassion one of another, love as brethren, be pitiful, be courteous:

Amos 3: 3: Can two walk together, except they be agreed?

3. Loving to one another. I Peter 3:8

1 Pet.3: 8: Finally, be ye all of one mind, <u>having compassion</u> one of another, love as brethren, be pitiful, be courteous:

Eph.5: 25: Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it;

Titus 2:4: That they may teach the young women to be sober, to love their husbands, to love their children,

4. Being considerate of one another. I Peter 3:8

1 Pet.3: 8: Finally, be ye all of one mind, having compassion one of another, love as brethren, be pitiful, be courteous:

5. Being respectful of one another. I Peter 3:8-9

1 Pet.3: 8-9: Finally, be ye all of one mind, having compassion one of another, love as brethren, be pitiful, <u>be courteous</u>: 9: Not rendering evil for evil, or railing for railing: but contrariwise blessing; knowing that ye are thereunto called, that ye should inherit a blessing.

B. The Wife's Role in the Marriage (in particular)

1. Submission to her husband. Ephesians 5:22-24, Titus 2:5

Eph.5: 22-24: Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord. 23: For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body 24: Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in every thing.

Titus 2: 5: To be discreet, chaste, keepers at home, good, obedient to their own husbands, that the word of God be not blasphemed.

1 Pet.3: 1: Likewise, ye wives, be in subjection to your own husbands; that, if any obey not the word, they also may without the word be won by the conversation of the wives;

2. Love her husband and children. Titus 2:4

Titus 2: 4: That they may teach the young women to be sober, to love their husbands, to love their children,

3. Care of the home. Titus 2:5

Titus 2: 5: To be discreet, chaste, <u>keepers at home</u>, good, obedient to their own husbands, that the word of God be not blasphemed.

C. The Husband's Role in the Marriage (in particular)

1. Love his wife. Ephesians 5:25

Eph.5: 25: Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it;

Col.3: 19: Husbands, love your wives, and be not bitter against them.

2. Gives himself to his wife. Ephesians 5:25

Eph.5: 25: Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it;

3. Give honor unto his wife. 1 Peter 3:7 "best friend"

1 Pet.3:7: Likewise, ye husbands, dwell with them according to knowledge, giving honour unto the wife, as unto the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life; that your prayers be not hindered.

4. Provide leadership, and care for necessities. I Timothy 3:4 "proistemi" – preside, maintain

1 Tim.3:4: One that <u>ruleth</u> well his own house, having his children in subjection with all gravity; cf.1 Tim.5:8 "providing for"

D. The "Golden Rule"

- Do unto the other as you would have the other do to you. Luke 6:31

IV. The Wedding's Role in the Christian Marriage (EDIFICATIONAL)

A. It should be a picture of godliness - 1 Cor. 6:20

1 Cor. 6:20: For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.

- 1. Filled with the presence of holiness
- 2. Filled with the presence of seriousness
- 3. Filled with the presence of purpose
- 4. Filled with the presence of happiness
- 5. Filled with the presence of family

B. It should be a pattern of godliness - 1 Cor. 10:31 "do all to the glory of God"

- 1. A challenge to the couple to be godly as a family
- 2. A charge to the couple to be Christ-like with each other
- 3. A command to love each other always with a godly love

C. It should be an point of encouragement - 1 Thes. 5:11, "edify one another"

- 1. To live happily together "best friends"
- 2. To abide together through the good and the bad days
- 3. To love till "death do us part"