



## WHEN MARRIAGE MEETS GRACE

### Session #1

#### A. INTRODUCTION

- What makes a good Christian marriage?

**J.I Packer**

*“No need in Christendom is more urgent than the need for a renewed awareness of what the grace of God really is.”*

**Jerry Bridges**

*“Grace is God’s unmerited favour to those who deserve his wrath.”*

**Gary & Betsy Riccuci**

*“God’s grace comes to us through the gospel, and the gospel is the means by which we experience that grace. Grace redirects our focus from our guilt to God’s forgiveness, from our failures to Christ’s perfect righteousness, from our total inability to God’s complete sufficiency, from all we feel burdened to do to all Christ has already done on our behalf.”*

- The Functional Centrality of the Gospel in Marriage

**Milton Vincent**

*“God did not give us His gospel just so we could embrace it and be converted. Actually, He offers it to us every day as a gift that keeps on giving to us everything we need for life and godliness...I have found nothing more powerful and life transforming than the gospel...Over the course of time, preaching the gospel to myself every day has made more of a difference in my life than any other discipline I have ever practiced. I find myself sinning less, but just as importantly, I find myself recovering my footing more quickly after sinning, due to the immediate comfort found in the gospel. I have also found that when I am absorbed in the gospel, everything else I am supposed to be towards God and others seems to flow out of me more naturally and passionately. Doing right is never more easy than when one is breathing deeply the atmosphere of the gospel. I’m confident that you will find the same to be true in your life as well.”*

## **B. THE OMNI-RELEVANT GOSPEL**

- 1. Because of the Gospel, Christians have become new creations.**
- 2. Because of the Gospel, we are forgiven.**
- 3. Because of the Gospel, we can forgive just as Christ forgave us.**
- 4. Because of the Gospel, we are accepted by God.**
- 5. Because of the Gospel, sin's ruling power over us is broken.**
- 6. Because of the Gospel we have power to fight & overcome sin.**

### **Dave Harvey**

*"Grace meets us right where we are with the goal of taking us to where God wants us to be. Grace meets us in the depravity of our desires and has as its intent to make us want what God wants for us. It is a persistent grace to run the race."*

- 7. Because of the Gospel, we have hope.**
- 8. Because of the Gospel, we have access to God through Christ.**
- 9. Because of the Gospel, Christ dwells in us by his Holy Spirit.**