



WHEN SINNERS SAY 'I DO'

Session #2 - Getting to the Heart of Communication

A. INTRODUCTION

- Different by Design

Gregg Johnson

"We are differently gifted as male and female not only in anatomy and physiology but also in behaviour."

B. COMMON ASSUMPTIONS IN MARRIAGE THAT AFFECT COMMUNICATION

- Husband & Wife wired the same way.
- Think along the same lines.
- Interested in the same things.
- Absence of sinful hearts.
- My spouse has ESP

C. THE GOAL OF OUR COMMUNICATION

Ephesians 4:29

"Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear."

- Biblical fellowship.

J.I. Packer

“Christian fellowship is an expression of both love and humility. It springs from a desire to bring benefit to others, coupled with a sense of personal weakness and need. It has a double motive—the wish to help, and to be helped; to edify, and to be edified. It has a double aim—to do, and to receive, good. It is a corporate seeking by Christian people to know God better through sharing with each other what, individually, they have learned from him already.”

Gary & Betsy Ricucci

“As it applies to marriage, we can define fellowship as sharing all of life so as to reflect our union with Christ and deepen our relational intimacy with one another so as to glorify God and grow in godliness.”

- Development of Intimacy.

CJ Mahaney

“We must touch the hearts and minds of our wives before we touch their bodies. And as our words and actions touch their minds, much will be transformed.”

Gary & Betsy Ricucci

“Indeed, a husband and wife can only thrive in relational intimacy when they open themselves up to one another by the means of fellowship and biblical communication.”

- Care

D. THE CONTENT OF OUR COMMUNICATION

- Practical everyday information. (appointments, arrangements, plans etc.
- Expressions of love and affection for our spouse.
- Our experiences in God, what we are learning.
- What God is revealing to us.

- Planning & Strategizing for growth and care, (for men)
- Drawing out from each other, asking questions.
- Biblical correction.
- Biblical encouragement, expressing evidences of grace.

E. THE PRACTICE OF OUR COMMUNICATION

- Time to talk. (plan set aside time away from family).
- Develop a listening ear.
- Communicate and respond with humility.
- Be open and honest and not be defensive.
- Share with self-control.
- Be charitable in our assessments and evaluation.
- Communicate with understanding of where the other person is coming from.
- Avoid emotionally charged words.
- Refrain from recurring negative thoughts and comments.
- Speak words of faith and not doubt. (Reflect the Gospel and God's sovereignty)