

THE ART OF APPRECIATION

Part 1 of Series: Marriage Masterpiece

February 17th & 18th, 2024

Pastor Kerry Shook

Life Group Questions:

1. How does it make you feel to know that you're God's masterpiece?
2. What will you do to make space for understanding?
3. What is the difference for you between trust and forgiveness?

"For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago."

Ephesians 2:10 (NLT)

1. ACCEPTANCE

"And this is why a man leaves father and mother and cherishes his wife. No longer two, they become 'one flesh.' This is a huge mystery, and I don't pretend to understand it all. What is clearest to me is the way Christ treats the church."

Ephesians 5:31-32 (MSG)

"Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God."

Romans 15:7 (NIV)

2. UNDERSTANDING

"If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, Who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you."

James 1:5 (NIV)

3. AFFIRMATION

"The person who plants selfishness, ignoring the needs of others—ignoring God!—harvests a crop of weeds. All he'll have to show for his life is weeds! But the one who plants in response to God, letting God's Spirit do the growth work in him, harvests a crop of real life, eternal life."

Galatians 6:7-8 (MSG)

"Thoughtless words can wound as deeply as any sword, but wisely spoken words can heal."

Proverbs 12:18 (GNT)

4. HONESTY

"An honest answer is a sign of true friendship."

Proverbs 24:26 (GNT)

“...He will give: beauty for ashes; joy instead of mourning...”

Isaiah 61:3 (TLB)

5. FORGIVENESS

“Instead, be kind to each other, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, just as God through Christ has forgiven you.”

Ephesians 4:32 (NLT)