

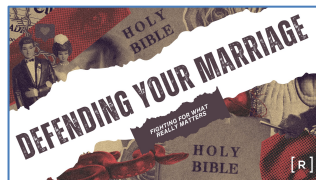


DEFENDING YOUR MARRIAGE
May 19, 2024

REDEMPTION CITY CHURCH

Protecting What Matters Most.

Ephesians 2:1-2, Matthew 22:36-37, Ephesians 6:11-13

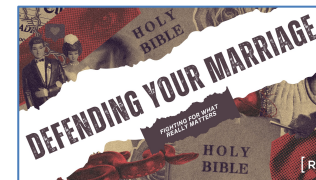


DEFENDING YOUR MARRIAGE
May 19, 2024

REDEMPTION CITY CHURCH

Protecting What Matters Most.

Ephesians 2:1-2, Matthew 22:36-37, Ephesians 6:11-13



Sticky Statement:

Every relationship ends up somewhere ... but few relationships end up somewhere on purpose!

"Stay alert! Watch out for your great enemy, the devil. He prowls around like a roaring lion, looking for someone to devour." **1 Peter 5:8**

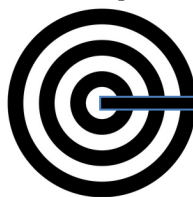
"As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins,² in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient. ³ All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our flesh and following its desires and thoughts." Eph. 2:1-2

2 ways you can protect the priority of your marriage:

1. STAY _____ ON CHRIST.

³⁶ "Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?" ³⁷ Jesus replied: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind." Matthew 22:36-37

The 1st priority in your marriage is NOT your spouse. It's your SAVIOR!



Whatever is at the center of YOU ... will affect everything that comes out of you.

Your values and your beliefs ...will influence your actions and your decisions, which will shape your influence and impact.

"Guard your heart above all else, for it determines the course of your life." **Proverbs 4:23 nlt**

PRAY TOGETHER: KEEP IT SHORT AND CONSISTENT.

Sticky Statement:

Every relationship ends up somewhere ... but few relationships end up somewhere on purpose!

"Stay alert! Watch out for your great enemy, the devil. He prowls around like a roaring lion, looking for someone to devour." **1 Peter 5:8**

"As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins,² in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient. ³ All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our flesh and following its desires and thoughts." Eph. 2:1-2

2 ways you can protect the priority of your marriage:

1. STAY _____ ON CHRIST.

³⁶ "Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?" ³⁷ Jesus replied: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind." Matthew 22:36-37

The 1st priority in your marriage is NOT your spouse. It's your SAVIOR!



Whatever is at the center of YOU ... will affect everything that comes out of you.

Your values and your beliefs ...will influence your actions and your decisions, which will shape your influence and impact.

"Guard your heart above all else, for it determines the course of your life." **Proverbs 4:23 nlt**

PRAY TOGETHER: KEEP IT SHORT AND CONSISTENT.

FRAY: "Dear God. Help us to center our life and marriage around you today so that we can have a clear direction in all we do. "Help us to love you more and more show your love to each other in real practical ways today. Protect us from the enemy and shine Your light into the world out of our lives."

2. PREPARE TO A SPIRITUAL BATTLE.

"Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes.¹² For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms."¹³ Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, ..."

Ephesians 6:11-13

The devil attacks us with distractions and seductions.

"But among you there must not be even a hint of sexual immorality, or of any kind of impurity, or of greed, because these are improper for God's holy people." Ephesians 5:3

"Walk in the light while you can, so the darkness will not overtake you. Those who walk in the darkness cannot see where they are going." John 12:35

"No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can endure it." 1 Cor. 10:13

Why would you fight a temptation in the future when you have the power to eliminate it today?

Relational Discipleship Moment:

"Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind."³⁸ This is the first and greatest commandment.³⁹ And the second is like it: "Love your neighbor as yourself." Matthew 22:37-39

- Looking at my life ... what has been at the center of my life this past week? (look at your time, resources, money.)
- Looking at our marriage ... what has been at the center of our relationship this past month? (look at your time, resources, money.)
- What's something you need to do today to put Jesus at the center of your life? What needs to be re-prioritized in your life/marriage?

FRAY: "Dear God. Help us to center our life and marriage around you today so that we can have a clear direction in all we do. "Help us to love you more and more show your love to each other in real practical ways today. Protect us from the enemy and shine Your light into the world out of our lives."

1. PREPARE TO A SPIRITUAL BATTLE.

"Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes.¹² For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms."¹³ Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, ..."

Ephesians 6:11-13

The devil attacks us with distractions and seductions.

"But among you there must not be even a hint of sexual immorality, or of any kind of impurity, or of greed, because these are improper for God's holy people." Ephesians 5:3

"Walk in the light while you can, so the darkness will not overtake you. Those who walk in the darkness cannot see where they are going." John 12:35

"No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can endure it." 1 Cor. 10:13

Why would you fight a temptation in the future when you have the power to eliminate it today?

Relational Discipleship Moment:

"Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind."³⁸ This is the first and greatest commandment.³⁹ And the second is like it: "Love your neighbor as yourself." Matthew 22:37-39

- Looking at my life ... what has been at the center of my life this past week? (look at your time, resources, money.)
- Looking at our marriage ... what has been at the center of our relationship this past month? (look at your time, resources, money.)
- What's something you need to do today to put Jesus at the center of your life? What needs to be re-prioritized in your life/marriage?