



## **Bankrupting Your Marriage**

### **Lasting Love // Week 4**

#### **Pastor Tim Moore**

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#### **Overview**

In the final week of the series, Pastor Tim gets practical about one of the most difficult parts of relationships: conflict. Every relationship will experience tension, but how we respond to conflict can either strengthen a relationship or slowly erode trust. Scripture gives us a different way to handle anger, resolve tension, extend forgiveness, and protect the relationships God has given us.

#### **Ice Breaker**

What's worth arguing over?

- Directions; Replacing the toilet paper; Squeezing the middle of the toothpaste; Where to eat.

#### **Read Ephesians 4:26–27**

- **What does Paul tell us to do with our anger? What does he warn can happen if we allow anger to remain unresolved?**
- Why do you think unresolved tension can be so damaging to a relationship?

#### **Read Ephesians 4:31–32**

- **What specific attitudes and behaviors does Paul tell us to get rid of in verse 31? What does he tell us to replace them with in verse 32?**
- Why do you think Paul connects forgiveness with the way God has forgiven us through Christ?
- **Optional Group Discussion:** Which is harder for you personally: addressing conflict, controlling your response when you are angry, or forgiving someone who has hurt you? Why?

#### **Read Matthew 19:4–6**

- **What does Jesus say about God's intention for marriage in these verses? What does He say should not be separated?**
- What does it look like for a husband and wife to pursue "oneness" when they have different personalities, opinions, expectations, or ways of handling conflict?
- How can choosing unity change the way we approach conflict?

#### **Application**

Conflict and tension are a part of every close relationship. While we can't always prevent them, we can choose how we respond when they happen.

**Think about your marriage or an important relationship in your life:** Are there areas where unresolved tension, hurt, or conflict may be creating distance or weakening trust? What is one thing you could do this week to bring healing, rebuild trust, or strengthen that relationship?

### **Prayer**

Heavenly Father, thank You for the relationships You have placed in our lives. Help us recognize that conflict is not the end of a relationship, but an opportunity to respond in a way that honors You. Give us wisdom to manage our anger, courage to address unresolved tension, humility to take responsibility for our part, and grace to forgive as You have forgiven us. Help us replace bitterness with kindness, anger with compassion, and division with unity. May our relationships reflect Your love and point others toward You. In Jesus' name, Amen.

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### **Upcoming Events:**

10/4 – Welcome to the X  
10/7 – Worship Night  
10/25 – Trunk or Treat

### **Resources:**

- To request prayer: <https://thexchurch.churchcenter.com/people/forms/13150>
- To meet with a Pastor: <https://thexchurch.churchcenter.com/people/forms/534644>
- Financial Assistance, Sobriety Resources, grief support, and more: <https://thex.church/care/>

**X Church Podcast:** [https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL8rUS49luWYwojA6eKIA\\_VuAO592ZYQgd](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL8rUS49luWYwojA6eKIA_VuAO592ZYQgd)