

SACRED MARRIAGE

Week Three
“How Grace Grows”

Review

The biggest transition in marriage: ME becomes WE.

Four Pillars of Partnership

Key Affirmations

As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received. Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.

Ephesians 4:1-3

Any situation which causes me to confront my _____ has tremendous
_____.

Marriage is about _____, not _____.

The Value of Conflict

Conflict shows that _____.

Conflict exposes my _____.

Conflict sharpens our _____.

Conflict provides a window into _____.

Conflict can lead to _____.

“Conflict is an occupational hazard of being human.”

Gary Oliver

The continuation of conflict is a _____.

Redefining Expectations

Interview with Bryan Atkinson

bryan@communityofhope.com 817-228-8636

A call to love, forgive & serve

Ephesians 4:1-3, Philippians 2:12-13, Romans 12:10

The importance of the “Call”

Consider the alternative

The nine most important words

Take home exercise

Write a letter to your spouse this week. In that note, focus on the following things.

What are the things that you most appreciate about them? about who they are? what they do? What do you see God doing in their life? Take a moment to celebrate their growth, mark their success, and remind them that you are on their team. If needed, confess your sin, seek their forgiveness and model the grace that God has given you.

Individual Questions

How do you feel about conflict?

Do you seek it out or try to avoid it all cost?

What is one conflict that you feel you need to choose to stop pursuing?

How would you evaluate your ability to express empathy & vulnerability?

Questions for Couples

What can we do to more clearly model and express grace to one another in our relationship?

RESOURCE LIST

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Dancing in The Minefields

Well I was 19 you were 21
The year we got engaged
Everyone said we were much too young
But we did it anyway
We got the rings for 40 each from a pawnshop down the road
We said our vows and took the leap now 15 years ago

Chorus:

We went dancing in the minefields
We went sailing in the storm
And it was harder than we dreamed
But I believe that's what the promise was for

Well 'I do' are the two most famous last words
The beginning of the end
But to lose your life for another I've heard is a good place to begin
Cause the only way to find your life is to lay your own life down
And I believe it's an easy price for the life that we have found

Chorus

Bridge:

So when I lose my way, find me
When I lose love's chains, bind me
At the end of all my faith
to the end of all my days
when I forget my name, remind me

Cause we bear the light of the son of man
So there's nothing left to fear
So I'll walk with you in the shadow lands
Till the shadows disappear
Cause he promised not to leave us
And his promises are true
So in the face of this chaos baby
I can dance with you

Chorus