

# Why MARRIAGE Matters

May 2, 2010

What You Must Know About Marriage

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## 1. Love is...

Luke 10:37

## 2. You are...

Luke 6:41-42

## 3. Living...

Hebrews 12:14-15

## Digging Deeper

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1. What was the most important thing you learned from the three couples interviewed?
2. Why did you get married (or why do you want to get married)? Is this a biblical reason?
3. Respond to the following quotes by Gary Thomas in Sacred Marriage:

*"Any situation that calls me to confront my selfishness has enormous spiritual value, and I slowly began to understand that the real purpose of marriage may not be happiness as much as it is holiness."*

*"If the purpose of marriage was simply to enjoy an infatuation and make me 'happy,' then I'd have to get a 'new' marriage every two or three years. But if I really wanted to see God transform me from the inside out, I'd need to concentrate on changing myself rather than on changing my spouse."*

4. What has marriage taught you about your flaws and faults? Why is marriage so good at revealing our weaknesses?
5. Read each of the key passages from this week's message. Describe how each one applies to marriage:
  - Luke 10:30-37
  - Luke 6:41-42
  - Hebrews 12:14-15
6. If you embrace the idea that God intended marriage to make us holy more than to make us happy, how would your behavior change?

**Prayer:** Bad things happen at the same time good things are happening. Instead of wondering "why" something happens, maybe I should be asking what it is I will do in response to the bad thing. Will I run from it or accept it? Will I let it ruin me or grow me? Will I keep it hidden in the dark by not dealing with it? Or will I allow God to use it to reveal the crusty edges and broken pieces of me that need transformed? Talk candidly with God about the difficulties you are facing right now. Ask him what He wants to do in you through it.