

MARRIAGE ON MISSION: Understanding God's Purpose for Marriage

Session 1: Marriage on Mission: An Introduction

Friday, February 16, 2024

Speakers: Pastor John Kaneshiro and Pastor Matt Sanders

Why this marriage conference?

In this conference, we will

- Look at how spouses can encourage each other to grow in the Lord.
- See what it means to have Christ in our marriages.
- See what it means to have a marriage that is gospel centered.
- Understand more God's kingdom purpose for marriage.

Starting Questions

We know that the answers to these questions might depend on how terminology in the questions is defined. Don't worry about that now. Just answer the questions based on what you understand the terms to mean.

Do you believe you and your spouse are about the same in your spiritual maturity? If not, which one do you think is more mature spiritually? *Have at least one reason for your answer.*

How often do you pray specifically for the spiritual growth of your spouse? *Note that this is not asking how often do you pray for your spouse.*

What is one thing that you believe would change about your marriage if you and your spouse were growing spiritually and your marriage was more gospel-centered?

What is one thing that you believe would stay the same about your marriage if you and your spouse were growing spiritually and your marriage was more gospel-centered?

What is one thing that you believe would change about you if you and your spouse were growing spiritually and your marriage was more gospel-centered?

What is one thing that you believe would stay the same about you if you and your spouse were growing spiritually and your marriage was more gospel-centered?

What is one thing that you believe would change about your spouse if you and your spouse were growing spiritually and your marriage was more gospel-centered?

What is one thing that you believe would stay the same about your spouse if you and your spouse were growing spiritually and your marriage was more gospel-centered?

Hold onto these answers. As we go through the conference, think back on them. Revise them if necessary as we go.

Some important definitions

Christian marriage

Spiritual growth

The Gospel

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

Gospel-centered

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

More presumptions

We believe that the Bible is God's inerrant Word and authoritative for our lives when rightly interpreted.

We believe that salvation is by grace alone through faith alone.

We believe that God wants our marriages to thrive for His glory and His kingdom purposes.

What we hope to accomplish

Our intent is to encourage Christian couples to

- See each other first and foremost in terms of their relationships to Christ.
- See their marriages first and foremost in terms of God's purpose for marriage rather than their own.

- Understand how spouses can become equal, but not identical partners in one another's spiritual growth.
- Understand the blessing that comes in marriages in which Christlikeness and the Fruit of the Spirit abound.

Encouraging spiritual growth in our spouses

The focus is on encouraging.

- Encouraging is not _____.
- Encouraging is not being _____ or doing _____.
- Encouraging means being willing to _____ wherever your spouse is.
- Encouraging means being _____.
- Encouraging means being _____.
- Encouraging means noticing _____ in your spouse.
- Encouraging means continuing to _____ yourself and acknowledging the areas that you still need to _____ on.