

Making Much of Jesus in Marriage Series

Making Much of Jesus in Marriage

Introduction: Jesus is to be first place in everything. Col. 1:18

1. Recognize what God did in Jesus.

- ❖ Q_____ us for His inheritance. Col. 1:12
- ❖ R_____ us from the domain of darkness. Col. 1:13
- ❖ R_____ us. Col. 1:14
- ❖ F_____ us. Col. 1:14
- ❖ C_____ us. Col. 1:16
- ❖ R_____ us. Col. 1:22
- ❖ P_____ us before Himself - blameless. Col. 1:22

2. Recognize who Jesus is.

- ❖ He is G_____. Col. 1:15, Heb. 1:3, John 1:18, John 10:30, John 14:9
- ❖ He is the h_____. Col. 1:15
- ❖ He is the c_____. Col. 1:16
- ❖ He is the p_____ of your existence. Col. 1:16, Eph. 1:9-10, Rev. 4:11, 5:9
- ❖ He is the s_____ of all things. Col. 1:17
- ❖ He is the h_____, the church. Col. 1:18

3. Recognize that fullness only comes from Jesus Christ. Col. 1:19

Application: We need to...and intentionally repent and make much of Jesus Christ by putting Him first place in our marriages.

1. Confess to the Lord where you have not put Him first in your life and marriage. First individually then together.
2. Confess to your spouse what/who you have put first place instead of Jesus Christ and ask them to forgive you and pray for you (this is making much of Jesus :-)
3. Pray together asking the Holy Spirit to fill you with the understanding of how you can make much of Jesus and put Him first place in everything in your marriage.

Making Much of Jesus by Forgiving Each Other - Part 1

Introduction: Jesus is to be first place in everything. Col. 1:18

1. When we are _____ by our spouse.
2. When we are _____ by our spouse.
3. When we are _____ by our spouse.
4. When we are offended, hurt, disappointed _____.

Why should we forgive?

1. Because it makes us _____. Col. 3:13
2. Because we have been _____. Col. 1:14, Col. 3:13, Matt. 6:12
3. Because we won't be _____ if we don't _____. Matt. 6:14-15
4. Because forgiveness _____. Luke 7:47
5. Because forgiving makes much of _____. Col. 3:13, 2 Cor. 6:1

How does forgiving another person make much of Jesus?

1. Forgiving another person recognizes that Jesus paid the _____ on the cross owed for that sin. Col. 2:14, 1 Cor. 15:3
2. Forgiving another person is an expression of how much you make of the _____ of Jesus on the cross. 2 Cor. 5:15, 21
3. Forgiving another person is a testimony to the other person that you make more of _____ and His forgiveness than you do of _____. 2 Cor. 5:14
4. Forgiving another person makes much of Jesus as you cast yourself _____. 1 Pet. 5:7

How do we forgive?

1. We recognize them as part of the _____ which suffered on the cross. 2 Cor. 5:16-17
2. We do not recognize or allow their offense, fleshliness, or hurt to _____ because God removed it from consideration when He caused it to fall upon His Son. 2 Cor. 5:16-17, Col. 1:22
3. We intentionally apply the work of Jesus Christ at the cross to them and recognize them as _____. 2 Cor. 5:15, 10:5
4. We intentionally look to the hope of _____ when our spouse and us will be transformed into the righteousness of Christ and set free from sin's penalty, power, and presence. Col. 1:22-23

Application

1. Begin with a prayer of thanksgiving to the Lord regarding His forgiveness of your sins.
2. Has God seen you make much of Jesus by forgiving each other? What have your children observed? Continue with a prayer of confession if you have not made much of Jesus by forgiving each other.
3. Discuss how you can go home and make much of Jesus by forgiving each other and what you need to do to testify to the children of God's great forgiveness in Jesus.

Making Much of Jesus by Forgiving Each Other - Part 2

We have forgiven totally when...

1. We don't want others to know the _____.
2. We want our offender to be free from _____.
3. We want our offender to be free from _____.
4. We want our offender to know how God used it for _____.
5. We want to protect our offender from their greatest fear - _____.
6. We determine to forgive our offender until we _____.
7. We pray that our offender will be _____.

How do we handle repeated offenses? Matt. 18:21-22

1. Gives more opportunities to _____.
2. Gives more practice in _____ in order to make much of Jesus.
3. Blesses the offender by increasing _____ in the relationship as it is based on Jesus and not their performance. This also may decrease fear as a dynamic in the relationship.
4. Brings the blessing of God on the one who _____.
5. Distinguish between forgiving _____ and forgiving _____. Ps. 32:1-6

Application

1. Begin with a prayer of thanksgiving to the Lord regarding His forgiveness of your sins.
2. Has God seen you make much of Jesus by forgiving each other? What have your children observed? Continue with a prayer of confession if you have not made much of Jesus by forgiving each other.
3. Discuss how you can make much of Jesus by forgiving each other and what you need to do to testify to others and the children of God's great forgiveness in Jesus.

Making Much of Jesus by Making Much of Trusting Him

Introduction: Jesus is to be first place in everything. Col. 1:18

1. We've already recognized many reasons from Col. 1 why Jesus is to be first place in everything
2. During this session, I would like to direct your attention to another way you can make much of Jesus in your marriage - by trusting Him.
3. Building a marriage relationship based on trust is much easier said than done, is it not?
 1. The biggest reason building a relationship based on trust is so difficult is that **we are naturally habitual** _____. Col. 3:2-3.
 2. A second reason building a relationship based on trust is so difficult is that **we are naturally** _____. Col. 2:23
 3. The reality is this: Only those who know that it is God's will that he or she be _____ can build a relationship based on trust - trust in God's purpose for them being worked out in all relationships.

The basis for trust in a marriage relationship: You are complete in Christ!

1. It is the Father's pleasure for all the _____ to dwell in Christ. Col. 1:19
2. "Complete in Christ" is faith's foundation.
 1. In Jesus are hidden all the _____ of wisdom and knowledge. Col. 2:3
 2. He is the foundation of your _____. Col. 2:6-7
 3. The world's ideas (man's philosophies and principles) are _____. Col. 2:8
 4. It is God's will that you be _____ and live according to God's will. Col. 2:9-10
3. You need to be _____ with the knowledge of God's will so you can walk in a manner worthy of the Lord. Col. 1:9-10.

Because you are complete in Christ, you can trust Jesus...

1. With your _____. Col. 1:16
2. To _____ your marriage together. Col. 1:17
3. To give you what you need if your spouse _____ you. Col. 3:12-13
4. And _____ to your husband. Col. 3:18
5. And _____ your wife and not be embittered against her. Col. 3:19
6. And do everything in your marriage in the name of _____ with thanksgiving. Col. 3:17

When you trust Jesus in your marriage, you are making much of Jesus.

1. When you trust _____, you are making much of _____ above Jesus.
2. When you trust your _____, you are making much of your _____ above Jesus.
3. When you trust Jesus for your _____ in life, you are making much of _____. You are building your marriage relationship on trust and living like a child of God. Col. 3:1-3.

Application

1. Discuss what has been the basis of trust in your marriage.
2. Discuss what you have discovered about marriage with that basis of trust?
3. If you have been living in the fullness of Christ, then thank Him for His fullness, ask Him to continue to fill you with the knowledge that you are complete in Christ so you can do your marriage, in both word and deed, in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.
4. Dedicate yourselves in the fullness of Christ, to relate to one another doing God's will - out of the fullness God has for you in Jesus Christ.

Making Much of Jesus by Making Much of Hope

Introduction: Jesus is to be first place in everything. Col. 1:18

1. When we make much of Jesus, we are putting him first place.
2. We've talked about making much of Jesus by forgiving one another and trusting Him.
3. Another way we can make much of Jesus in our marriages is by making much of the hope
 1. Making much of the hope of _____.
 2. Making much of hope _____ with our mates.

Hope is powerful.

1. Hope produces _____. Col. 1:4-5
2. Hope produces _____. Col. 1:4-5
3. Hope produces _____. Col. 1:24
4. Hope produces _____. Col. 1:12

When we make much of the hope of the gospel, we are making much of Jesus.

1. What is the hope of the gospel?
 1. We will inherit _____, because we have been qualified through Jesus' death and resurrection. Col. 1:12 The glory of God is that we have been loved with the same love He has for His Son. John 17:24
 2. We have been rescued from the _____ of sin. When we pass from this life, we will stand before Him forgiven and blameless in Christ Col. 1:13, 22
 3. Our bodies have been _____ and will be _____ into the image of Christ. Col. 1:14, 1 Cor. 15:
 4. God will prepare new _____ where righteousness reigns and we live with Him.
2. How do we make much of the hope of the gospel? The same way we make much of a vacation destination.
 1. We look forward to the day we get there.
 2. We think about what it will be like when we are there.
 3. We study it, so we'll enjoy it more when we get there.
 4. We talk about it with others who are going there.

When we make much of hope in our relationship, we are imitating Jesus and thus making much of Him.

1. We make much of hope when our _____ is based on God's love in Christ.
2. We make much of hope when we _____ one another.
3. We make much of hope when we live in the _____.
4. We make much of hope when we view our mates as _____.
5. We make much of hope when we accept the fallen state of things now while eagerly waiting for the _____ of all things.

Application

1. How does knowing that God loves you like He loves Jesus produce hope?
2. On a scale from 1-10 (with 1 being never) do you think about the hope of the gospel? What can you do to increase the frequency of thinking on the hope of the gospel?
3. Share with your mate how it affects you when they are forgiving, forbearing, and seek their fullness in Jesus.

4. Ask the Holy Spirit (and your spouse) to give you some ideas of what you could do to produce hope in the heart of your mate on a daily basis. Plan to take steps this next week to make much of Jesus by imitating Him and building hope in your marriage.

Saturday Closing Session 5 - 3:00-3:30 Testimonies and Prayer