

## Pre-Marital Counseling, Session Three

### **THE NOVICE**



#### I. Old Business

- A) What have you talked about since we last met?
- B) Is there any Old Business that we need to discuss?

#### II. RESPONSIBILITIES.

- A) Role. Ephesians 5:21-33

*21 And further, you will submit to one another out of reverence for Christ. 22 You wives will submit to your husbands as you do to the Lord. 23 For a husband is the head of his wife as Christ is the head of his body, the church; he gave his life to be her Savior. 24 As the church submits to Christ, so you wives must submit to your husbands in everything. 25 And you husbands must love your wives with the same love Christ showed the church. He gave up his life for her 26 to make her holy and clean, washed by baptism and God's word. 27 He did this to present her to himself as a glorious church without a spot or wrinkle or any other blemish. Instead, she will be holy and without fault. 28 In the same way, husbands ought to love their wives as they love their own bodies. For a man is actually loving himself when he loves his wife. 29 No one hates his own body but lovingly cares for it, just as Christ cares for his body, which is the church. 30 And we are his body. 31 As the Scriptures say, "A man leaves his father and mother and is joined to his wife, and the two are united into one." 32 This is a great mystery, but it is an illustration of the way Christ and the church are one. 33 So again I say, each man must love his wife as he loves himself, and the wife must respect her husband.*

1. Where did you get your ideas for your role in the marriage?

## 2. How will you work out differences in this area?

### B. Sexual. 1 Corinthians 7:1-5

*1 Now about the questions you asked in your letter. Yes, it is good to live a celibate life. 2 But because there is so much sexual immorality, each man should have his own wife, and each woman should have her own husband. 3 The husband should not deprive his wife of sexual intimacy, which is her right as a married woman, nor should the wife deprive her husband. 4 The wife gives authority over her body to her husband, and the husband also gives authority over his body to his wife. 5 So do not deprive each other of sexual relations. The only exception to this rule would be the agreement of both husband and wife to refrain from sexual intimacy for a limited time, so they can give themselves more completely to prayer. Afterward they should come together again so that Satan won't be able to tempt them because of their lack of self-control.*

#### 1. Is it ever alright to use martial relations to get your way?

### III. MARRIAGE, DIVORCE, REMARRAGE.

#### A) Who Can Marry With God's Approval?

*Everything you do or say should be done to obey Jesus your Lord. And in all you do, give thanks to God the Father through Jesus. Colossians 3: 17*

*"You have heard that the law of Moses says, 'A man can divorce his wife by merely giving her a letter of divorce.' But I say that a man who divorces his wife, unless she has been unfaithful, causes her to commit adultery. And anyone who marries a divorced woman commits adultery. Matthew 5:31,32*

#### 1. Single.

*Now to the unmarried and the widows I say: It is good for them to stay unmarried, as I am. But if they cannot control themselves, they should marry, for it is better to marry than to burn with passion. 1 Corinthians 7:8,9*

#### 2. Widow.

*A wife is married to her husband as long as he lives. If her husband dies, she is free to marry whomever she wishes, but this must be a marriage acceptable to the Lord. 1 Corinthians 7:39*

#### 3. Faithful Divorcer.

*I tell you that anyone who divorces his wife and marries another woman is guilty of adultery. The only reason for a man to divorce his wife is if his wife has sexual relations with another man." Matthew 19:9*

### IV . Discuss Family Goals

#### A. Discuss goals.

## B. Children.

1. How many.
2. Adoption.
3. Discipline.
  - a. How did your parents discipline you?
  - b. How do you feel about it now?
  - c. Would you do things the same or differently?

## C. Pets

1. What kind?
2. How many?
3. Where will you keep them?
4. Will they eat with you?
5. Will they sleep with you?

## V. DISCUSS PERSONALITY DESCRIPTIONS.

- A. Bride - mother.
- B. Groom- father.
- C. What problems do you see if these two people were married to each other?
- D. How will you deal with these problems, should they occur?

## VI. Four Questions

1. Give me 10 reasons why you want to marry this person?
2. What are you bringing to this marriage that will make it work?
3. What roles and responsibilities will you have in this marriage, and what roles will you fiancé have?
4. What will you get out of this marriage that you wouldn't have gotten if you had remained single?

## VII. SHOPPING.

A. What would you like to take from your previous home to your new home?

B. What do you want to leave in your previous home and not take into your new home?

### VIII. Homework

A. Handout.

1. Physical Goals

2. *Role Concepts Comparison.*

B. Define *love*.



## PHYSICAL GOALS

The main goal in this area of my life is \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

In order to reach this goal, I am setting the following objectives:

Year 1, \_\_\_\_\_

Year 5, \_\_\_\_\_

Year 10, \_\_\_\_\_

Year 25, \_\_\_\_\_

Year 50, \_\_\_\_\_

*Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's*

(1 Corinthians 6:19,20).



17. The father is the one responsible for disciplining the children. 1 2 3 4 5
18. A wife who has special talent should have a career . 1 2 3 4 5
19. It is the wife's responsibility to have the house neat and clean. 1 2 3 4 5
20. The husband should take his wife out somewhere twice a month. 1 2 3 4 5
21. The wife is just as responsible for the children's discipline as the husband. 1 2 3 4 5
22. It is the husband's job to do the yard work. 1 2 3 4 5
23. The mother should be the teacher of values to the children. 1 2 3 4 5
24. Women are more emotional than men. 1 2 3 4 5
25. Children should be allowed to help plan family activities. 1 2 3 4 5
26. Children develop better in a home with parents who are strict disciplinarians. 1 2 3 4 5
27. The wife should always obey what her husband asks her to do. 1 2 3 4 5
28. The husband should decide which area the husband and the wife should be responsible for. 1 2 3 4 5
29. Neither husband nor wife should bring their parents into the home to live. 1 2 3 4 5