ENGLISH

Valley Baptist Missions Center Spring Session two (S2) May 16th, 2023 - Lynn and Sandra Sasser



The Minister's Marriage and Family

Kingdom Marriage? Why kingdom marriage? Isn't that what we are all about?

Let's look at some Scriptures:

Luke 4:43 Jesus says," I must preach the good news of the kingdom of God to the other towns as well; for I was sent for this purpose."

Luke 8:1 says," Now it came to pass, afterward, that He went through every city and village, preaching and bringing the glad tidings of the kingdom of God."

And what did He say in John 18:36-

"Jesus answered,[My kingdom is not of this world. If My kingdom were of this world, My servants would fight, so that I should not be delivered to the Jews; but now My kingdom is not from here."

And you know this one: Matt.6:33-"But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you."

What is the kingdom? Throughout the Bible, the kingdom of God is His rule or reign over everything and everyone. Any kingdom consists of three crucial components:

First, there is a ruler; second, a realm of subjects who fall underneath this rule; and third, the rules of governance.

"to function in unison under divine authority to reproduce God's image and expand His rule in the world through both your individual and joint callings.

You set the example. You are the model. You are held to a higher standard and accountability by your calling to the ministry. The shepherd is to show the sheep how it is done. But what if the shepherd doesn't know how it is done? We am going to give you some help here today.

Let's define marriage: A Christian marriage is a covenant between two persons (a man and a woman) with God at the center; this means that God pledges to help hold the covenant together, even when we feel like giving up.

In a marriage covenant, you are committing yourself to loving, serving, and meeting the needs of your spouse simply because you love them and not as a repayment for what they have done.

So what is love?

In the most basic sense, love is the emotion felt and actions performed by someone concerned for the well-being of another person. Love involves affection, compassion, care and self-sacrifice. Love originated in the Triune Godhead, within the eternal relationship among the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

So far we have looked at the Kingdom of God, Christian Marriage, Covenant, and Love

Now I want to point out a few things that a Kingdom Couple should or can do: The list is extensive but we are going to major on a few

- I. Kingdom Couples Embrace Covenant "Love...bears all things, believes all things, hope all things, endures all things." (1 Cor.13:4,7)
- II. Kingdom Couples Honor Each Other "Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor."- Romans 12:10 .How can you honor your spouse?

III. Kingdom Couples Give God Glory

The primary way to bring God glory is through surrender to His sovereign rule over every area of our lives. When we base our marriages on His kingdom agenda, we freely enjoy God's hand of blessing and His promise to work all things together for good.(Romans 8:28)

Let consider surrender-Have you deliberately committed your will to Jesus Christ?

Have you ever had a crisis in your life in which you deliberately, earnestly, and recklessly abandoned everything?

You gave up. You surrendered it all to the Lord Jesus

Right here I want to lead you in a prayer:

Lord, we want to bring glory to You. Teach us what we can do to submit more fully to Your rule in our lives. Amen

IV. Kingdom Couples Share A Goal

"He said to them," Go into all the world and proclaim the gospel to the whole creation." (Mark 16:15)

Have you ever thought you have a mutual goal? Many pastors think their goal is to build a church. God builds the church not you. Your goal as a Kingdom Couple is the reflection of God through the advancement of His kingdom. Let's be reminded again of Matthew 28:18-20

Here is a very important principle:

V. Kingdom Couples Overcome

"If your marriage is strong, even if all the circumstances in your life around you are filled with trouble and weakness, it won't matter. You will be able to move out into the world in strength."- Timothy Keller

What is the biggest challenge you are facing today as a couple?

What does Philippians 4:13 say? "I can do all things through Him,[who is Him?] who strengthens me."

Here it is men:

VI. Kingdom Husbands Lead Spiritually

Paul told the church at Corinth, "I want you to understand that Christ is the head of every man, and the man is the head of a woman, and God is the head of Christ." (1 Corinthians 11:3)

What scares you most about leading spiritually?

This is obviously the next point:

VII. Kingdom Couples Pray Together

"Nothing tends more to cement the hearts of Christians than praying together. Never do they love one another so well as when they witness the outpouring of each other's hearts in prayer."- Charles Finney

How would you describe your prayer life?

What small steps can you take together to make prayer more than just a courtesy practice in your home?

Just some additional things:

Kingdom Couples Pray For Each Other

Kingdom Couples Fast and Pray at times or regularly

Kingdom Couples Pray for Their Marriage and for other marriages

Kingdom Couples Know the Real Enemy "our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the powers, against the world forces of darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places.- Ephesians 6:12

Kingdom Couples Keep God As Lord