

Marriage Series - "Bound for Love"

Sermon Discussion Guide

[Week 2 - January 14, 2024 - "Pull Weeds & Plant Seeds"](#)

The Sluggard's Vineyard Field

- Discuss the analogy of the vineyard field in the sermon. How is your marriage like a field, and what are the weeds that need to be pulled (conflicts resolved) and the seeds that need to be planted (positive relational deposits)?

Recognizing Laziness

- How can laziness, as described in the sermon, manifest in a marriage? Have there been times when conflicts or issues were neglected and led to gradual deterioration within your marriage?

Conflict Resolution - Pulling Weeds

- Share your thoughts on resolving conflicts in the relationship. How can you apply the principles mentioned in the sermon of: aiming to please God, owning your faults, and being humble and gentle?

Relational Connection - Planting Seeds

- Discuss the importance of regular relational connection. How do you currently create small moments of connection in your daily lives, and what can you do to enhance these moments?

Preventing Outside Attacks

- Reflect on the vulnerability of a neglected marriage, as mentioned in the sermon. How can you as a couple better protect your marriage from external threats? In what ways can the walls of your marriage be strengthened?

Forgiveness and Reconciliation

- Share your thoughts on forgiveness in marriage with each other. How can you as a couple practice forgiveness as you have been forgiven by Christ? How does Christ-like forgiveness contribute to a strong and resilient marriage?

Intentional Connection

- Discuss the concept of intentional connection. What intentional steps can you take to ensure regular moments of connection, especially in the midst of busy schedules or when children are involved?

Evaluation and Communication

- Consider the suggestion of extended times for evaluating the relationship. How comfortable are you with discussing and evaluating your marriage openly? What questions can you ask each other to deepen your understanding of your relational intimacy?



The Consequences of Laziness

- Reflect on the consequences of laziness in marriage. Have you either witnessed or experienced the gradual decline of a relationship due to neglect? How can you as a couple actively prevent such consequences?

Personal Responsibility and Christ's Example

- Discuss the call to personal responsibility in the sermon. In what ways do you currently take personal responsibility for the health and strength of your marriage?
- Can you share instances from your own experiences where taking personal responsibility positively impacted your relationship with your spouse?
- Galatians 6:1-2 encourages a spirit of gentleness in conflict resolution. How do humility and gentleness play a role in your approach to resolving conflicts with your spouse?
- The sermon mentions the importance of bearing one another's burdens. Can you share instances where you felt supported by your spouse or where you actively supported them during challenging times?
- Ephesians 4:32 emphasizes forgiving one another. How do you practice forgiveness in your marriage, and how has it contributed to reconciliation and a strengthened relationship?

