

“For They Shall All Know Me”

Developing a New Covenant Relationship with God

Spring 2016 / Sunday AM Bible Study



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Lesson 5. I Was Their Husband

A Husband in the Wild



God wants a relationship with people

Jeremiah 31:31-34

31 Behold, the days are coming, declares the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah, 32 not like the covenant that I made with their fathers on the day when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt, my covenant that they broke, though **I was their husband**, declares the Lord. 33 For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts. And I will be their God, and they shall be my people. 34 And no longer shall each one teach his neighbor and each his brother, saying, 'Know the Lord,' for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, declares the Lord. For I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more.

Goals

- Examine what a husband is and how God is a husband to His people
- Elaborate on how God's love motivates us
- Consider practical ways to recognize and respond to God's love

Marriage *is* love

Genesis 2:20-24

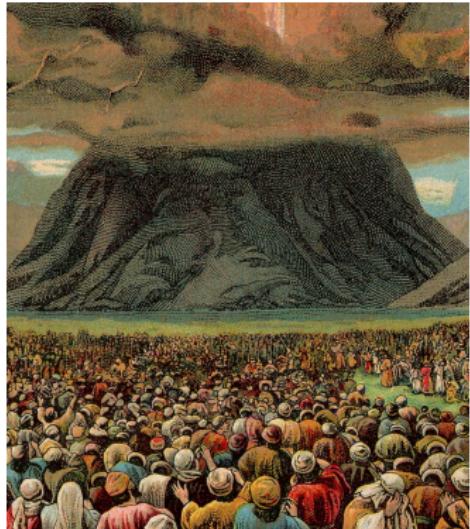


The first marriage had...

- ▶ Companionship
- ▶ Closeness
- ▶ Commitment

God was husband to the Israelites

Jer. 31:32



- ▶ Unlike human husbands, God's love is perfect (Matt. 7:9-11, Heb. 12:11)
- ▶ God offered Israel a direct relationship at Mt. Sinai (Ex. 20:18-21)
- ▶ The Israelites were afraid and refused.

Christ is husband to the Church

Heb 12:2, Eph 5:25



Headship means sacrifice.
Jesus ...

- ▶ ‘Endured the cross’
- ▶ ‘Despised the shame’
- ▶ ‘Hostility against himself’

You can't make someone love you, but you can try and persuade

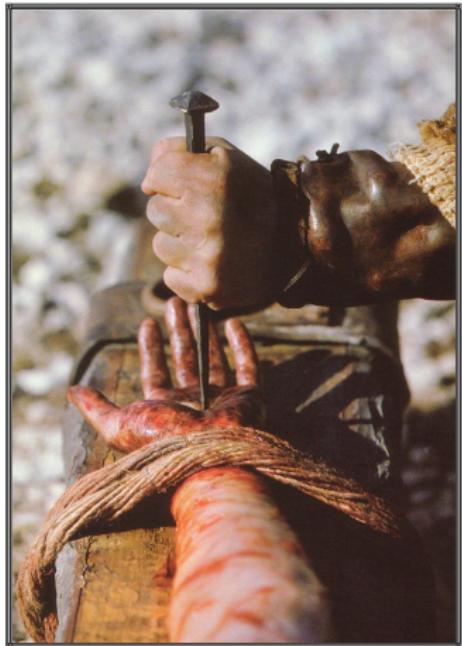
We all do this in marriage

- ▶ Things you give...
 - ▶ Communication
 - ▶ Kindness
 - ▶ Work around the house
 - ▶ Take care of the kids
 - ▶ Do your job(s)
 - ▶ etc.
- ▶ Responses you want...
 - ▶ Appreciation
 - ▶ Kindness
 - ▶ Closeness
 - ▶ etc.



Jesus' sacrifice motivates us

Heb. 12:1-4



- ▶ Gifts
 - ▶ Endured the cross
 - ▶ Ignored the shame
 - ▶ Endured hostilities from sinners
- ▶ Response
 - ▶ Do not grow weary or faint-hearted

God, the husband, tried to motivate the children of Israel

Heb. 12:18-21



► Gifts

- ▶ Mt. Sinai direct relationship
- ▶ Emphasized that God is holy
- ▶ The Old Law
- ▶ Physical Blessing

► Response

- ▶ Love
- ▶ Obedience
- ▶ Faithfulness

But, they were too afraid of God to listen to Him!

God, the husband, motivates Christians

Heb. 12:18-24

Gifts – Spiritual Mt. Zion

- ▶ Pleasant and happy
- ▶ Innumerable angles in festal gathering
- ▶ Assembly of the firstborn
- ▶ Spirits of the righteous made perfect by Jesus
- ▶ Jesus, and His blood which is MORE innocent than the blood of Abel
- ▶ Grace (v 15)

Response

- ▶ Don't refuse Him
- ▶ Thankfulness for a unshakeable kingdom
- ▶ Reverence and awe

God's love shown in Jesus

I John 4:9-10



- ▶ Gave His own Son ...
- ▶ When we didn't love him back.

Our response to God's love

I John 4:7-12

If you've ever thought,

***“Someone should
do something.”***

remember...

you're someone.

Zero Dean

- ▶ Love God back
- ▶ Love the brethren
- ▶ Then we know God

Questions for us

- ▶ Am I listening for the ways God is loving me?
- ▶ Am I sensitive in responding to God's Love?

I was a husband to them

- ▶ God loves his people as a husband loves his wife
- ▶ His love should motivate us to live righteous
- ▶ We need to see God's love in our everyday life
- ▶ We need to keep our heart softened so we can feel and respond to God's love.