



Grace Fellowship of Morehead, KY

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A MARRIAGE of SOWERS

Messaged preached on Sunday Morning, October 2, 2022

Today we are starting our Faith and Family month (October). It is a month that we are focusing on and teaching on the family.

There are a few things that I want to set straight before we get going on this month.

- 1.) I am not standing up here as someone who has everything figured out and am perfect. My halo is straight and I have never made a mistake.
Honestly, my mistakes are why I know it is important to teach on these areas...what Jessica and I have gone through is why I know that we all could use a refresher in God's view on the family.
- 2.) You may say...why are you taking a month away from spiritual principles to just deal with the family and marriages?
BELOVED: If it is in the Bible...it is spiritual. I know too many people whose ministries and lives have been torn apart by bad family lives...bad marriages.
God knows that...therefore, He put it throughout the Scriptures.
He even used the picture to compare Christ and the church and uses it to paint the picture of His Son returning to take His bride. He chose it to be the location of His first miracle on earth. Uses a marriage ceremony in many of His parables...the list goes on and on.
- 3.) You may say...well, Pastor Thad, I am not married...my children are grown...I don't have any... why do I need to come this month.
 - a.) You may get married...have children...maybe.
 - b.) Spiritual principles. There are things we will talk about that are spiritual principles, if you work them, they will work in every area of your life.
 - c.) We will absolutely deal with things that pertain to you at some point this month.

Proverbs 30:15-16

- 15 The horseleach hath two **daughters, crying, Give, give.** There are three things that are never satisfied, yea, four things **say not, It is enough:**
- 16 The grave; and the barren womb; the earth that is not filled with water; and the fire that saith **not, It is enough.**

(NLT) – “The leech has two suckers that cry out, “More, more!” There are three things that are never satisfied—no, four that never say, “Enough!””

(MSG) – “A leech has twin daughters named “Gimme” and “Gimme more.” Three things are never satisfied, no, there are four that never say, “That’s enough, thank you!””

“Horseleach” – is just a very large leech...blood sucker

It is a parasite...which lives off the life of something or someone else...sucks the life out of them.

“Daughters” – the suckers on the leech.

NOTICE: What never has enough...the grave (keeps getting and is never satisfied); the barren room (no matter what is inserted, never produces); a dessert (always asking for more moisture); a fire (keeps building and destroying).

IMPORTANT: I think that is an essential point...about why verse 15 is so important. There is no satisfying and it will destroy!
Now, if you haven't figured out what we are talking about.

A lot of people, put a lot of demands on others AND there is no pleasing them.
Whatever you do for them...it is not enough.

ILLUSTRATION: When we used to set up chairs after parties and I would go right behind people and correct what they did. Jessica said, "Don't be surprised if no one helps you eventually."

People who keep putting demands on others are suckers...leaches!

- * "you didn't do this"
- * "you didn't do that"
- * "I need you to do more"

BELOVED: Every relationship is either parasitic or edifying and encouraging!
Every relationship is either demanding and draining or investing and inputting!

ILLUSTRATION: Think of your bank account..what if all you ever did to your bank account was go and withdraw money from the account? You just kept making demands on the account. NEVER depositing anything into it!

It certainly wouldn't be long before you were broke!

BELOVED: That is where many marriages can find themselves. Always working at a deficit...each partner drained.

Proverbs 28:3 – "A poor man that oppressteth the poor is like a sweeping rain which leaveth no food."

(NLT) – "A poor person who oppresses the poor is like a pounding rain that destroys the crops."

(PASSION) – "When a pauper oppresses the destitute, it's like a flash flood that sweeps away their last hope."

IN OTHER WORDS: An empty person who is trying to pull things from another empty person, will end up emptier! Like a heavy rain that destroys crops!

UNDERSTAND: When you see a marriage that is in turmoil (or one that will end up in turmoil) you will hear a lot of this stuff:

- * They are not doing this or doing that
- * I have needs too
- * They are not doing this for me...they are not doing their responsibilities
- * Both give and take!
- * "But you don't do things for me"
- * "You gotta give me.."
- * They will even quote the Bible..."If you would submit to me, I could actually love you."

BELOVED: Marriage is NOT a give and take...it is a give and harvest!
Seed and sowing isn't about worrying about someone else's responsibility...it is about your own responsibility.

BELOVED: Marriage is NOT 50/50...it is 100/100. Because if you are holding back anything...you are missing it!

Marriage is about you doing and taking FULL RESPONSIBILITY for your responsibilities.

THINK ABOUT MULTIPLICATION: 1 times anything less than one is less than one! Are you not happy with your marriage? Are you giving wholly of yourself or are you holding back...because the other one isn't doing what they should do?
That makes you a sucker!

The Biggest Problem in Marriage

BELOVED: The biggest problem in marriage comes down to selfishness.
A failure to keep the New Testament command of love.
1 Corinthians 13:5 – "...seeketh not her own..."

BELOVED: A godly...goodly...marriage is not selfish and is NEVER about me and what I need.

Selfishness is the rook of a sucker.
We MUST make sure that we are not going to be a SUCKER!

Good News for Suckers

QUESTION: How do you get out of a bad financial situation?

ANSWER: Sow good seed.

QUESTION: How do you get out of a bad physical situation?

ANSWER: Sow seed of the Word.

MORE ANSWER: Work your faith...speak over the situation...take faith filled actions.

Have you ever, in the past, had a financial need and have gotten upset or frustrated with other people who won't help you?

I think we all have. We were suckers! Leaches! Saying gimme, gimme!
Have you ever blamed someone else for the situation you found yourself?
Gimme, gimme!

The KEY to operating in the Kingdom of God is seedtime and harvest!

BELOVED: You cannot sow seed (good seed) without there being a harvest.

THEREFORE: What if your marriage is broken, frustrating, etc. What if your spouse really isn't doing what they are suppose to do?

- * Should we make demands? Should we talk about what they are doing wrong...gimme gimme?
- * **NOPE!** It is our job to sow what is right!
Make INVESTMENTS into your marriage/family...so you will end up with something to withdraw!

INVEST time...love...giving...etc.

YOU ASK: But what If I don't feel like it!

BELOVED: That makes it more precious seed.

QUESTION: How do you come out of a bad marriage?

ANSWER: Sow a seed; work your faith; call those things that are not as though they were.

ILLUSTRATION: Of the woman that dad saw on television talk show...her husband had been unsaved and was rough...she went to church and when people would ask where her husband was she would say, "He is an evangelist, traveling around the country preaching about Jesus."...she did that for years...that day guess who was sitting next to her on that television program? Guess what he was doing?

Don't spend your time talking to everyone about what you see...speak about what you are believing for... what you are SOWING for!

Make INVESTMENTS, not just withdrawals.

ESSENTIAL: Many will “sow” to their spouse with the mentality of, “Okay, what are you going to give me now. I did something good for you...what will you do for me?”

BELOVED: That is NOT seedtime! You have NOT sown anything!
You have tried to manipulate the situation...you didn't give.

ILLUSTRATION: If you gave a huge amount of money to the church and then looked at me and said...“Okay, what are you going to do for me?”

That is NOT how it works!

John 12:24 – “Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone: but if it die, it bringeth forth much fruit.”

Let the seed be the seed...let it go!

God will bring the harvest! He is the Lord of the Harvest!

BELOVED: Make up your mind in your marriage that you will not be a sucker...but a sower! That you won't pull life out of your spouse (children), but that you will bring life to them.

A Couple Biblical Pictures of Suckers

Genesis 30:1-2

1 And when Rachel saw that she bare Jacob no children, Rachel envied her sister; and **said unto Jacob, Give me children, or else I die.**

2 And **Jacob's anger was kindled** against Rachel: and he said, Am I in God's stead, who hath withheld from thee the fruit of the womb?

(NLT) – “...Jacob became furious with Rachel.”

BELOVED: If you are not happy with a circumstance in your marriage...don't look to the spouse for the answer...look to God!

Samson, had a problem...wrong women!

Judges 14:15-18 – Samson had made a bet with some men that they couldn't answer his riddle in seven days. The men knew they couldn't so they asked his fiancé for help.

15 And it came to pass on the seventh day, that they said unto Samson's wife, Entice thy husband, that he may declare unto us the riddle, lest we burn thee and thy father's house with fire: have ye called us to take that we have? is it not so?

16 And Samson's wife wept before him, and said, Thou dost but hate me, and lovest me not: thou hast put forth a riddle unto the children of my people, and hast not told it me. And he said unto her, Behold, I have not told it my father nor my mother, and shall I tell it thee?

17 And she wept before him the seven days, while their feast lasted: and it came to pass on the seventh day, that he told her, because she lay sore upon him: and she told the riddle to the children of her people.

“lay sore” – oppressed...pressed so hard

18 And the men of the city said unto him on the seventh day before the sun went down, What is sweeter than honey? and what is stronger than a lion? And he said unto them, **If ye had not plowed with my heifer, ye had not found out my riddle**

Judges 16:15,16 (Delilah)

REMEMBER: She asked him three other times...he lied to her...finally...

15 And it came to pass, when she pressed him daily with her words, and urged him, so that his soul was vexed unto death; (GIMME)

(NLT) – “She tormented him with her nagging day after day until he was sick to death of it.”

16 That he told her all his heart, and said unto her, There hath not come a razor upon mine head; for I have been a Nazarite unto God from my mother's womb: if I be shaven, then my strength will go from me, and I shall become weak, and be like any other man.

We know it cost him his life!

This is not how love works!

2 Samuel 13:1-2, 11-15

- 1 And it came to pass after this, that Absalom the son of David had a fair sister, whose name was Tamar; and Amnon the son of David loved her.
- 2 And Amnon was so vexed, that he fell sick for his sister Tamar; for she was a virgin; and Amnon thought it hard for him to do any thing to her.

Amnon was infatuated with her...she wanted no part of it.

Amnon's friend came up with a plan...for Amnon to act sick and then when they asked what he needed... to call on Tamar to bring him food.

- 11 And when she had brought them unto him to eat, he took hold of her, and said unto her, Come lie with me, my sister.
- 12 And she answered him, Nay, my brother, **do not force me**; for no such thing ought to be done in Israel: do not thou this folly.
- 13 And I, whither shall I cause my shame to go? and as for thee, thou shalt be as one of the fools in Israel. Now therefore, I pray thee, speak unto the king; for he will not withhold me from thee.
- 14 Howbeit he would not hearken unto her voice: but, being stronger than she, **forced her**, and lay with her.
- 15 Then Amnon hated her exceedingly; so that the hatred wherewith he hated her was greater than the love wherewith he had loved her. And Amnon said unto her, Arise, be gone.

Suckers push you to do what they want you to do.

NOTE: He never loved her...he was selfish and wanted his needs met...so he FORCED her to do what he wanted.

Conclusion

Revelation 12:10 – “And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, Now is come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of his Christ: **for the accuser of our brethren is cast down**, which accused them before our God day and night.”

“**Accuser**” – one who blames; accusation against someone

REMEMBER: Adam? Genesis 3:12 – It was the woman you gave me!

BELOVED: It is the enemies method of blaming and accusing...not God's!
The enemy sucks life out of you.

John 10:10 – “The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.”

“**Thief**” – gimme, gimme, gimme...until they are drained

“**Good Shepherd**” – life abundantly

Romans 13:8 – owe no man anything but love!

Ephesians 5:33 – “Nevertheless let every one of you in particular so love his wife even as himself; and the wife see that she reverence her husband.”

BELOVED: As with covenant...me investing into my wife means I am investing into myself...“I am my beloveds and she is mine.”

Sow into each other...invest into each other...make deposits...continual sowing will produce a continual harvest of a good marriage.