



Marriage Core Seminar, Class #6 *Communication*

How to give correction well in marriage

1. Don't correct in order to punish.
2. Don't correct because you're in a bad mood.
3. Don't seek to do what only God can do.
4. Do be specific as to what you see.
5. Do be constructive.
6. Do be gentle.

V. Conclusion

“Out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks.” – Matt. 12:34

Course Schedule

Class 1: The Purpose, Power, and Paradox of Marriage

Class 2: The Shape of Marriage (Gen. 2, Eph. 5:22-33)

Class 3: Marriage and Sin (Gen. 3)

Class 4: Beauty in a Fallen World (1 Pe. 3:1-7)

Class 5: Grace in Marriage

Class 6: Communication

Class 7: Conflict

Class 8: Sex in Marriage

Class 9: Money in Marriage

Class 10: Children and Marriage

Class 11: Infertility

Class 12: The End of the Dream?

Class 13: Panel Discussion

A few good books on marriage to read on your own...

- *Love that Lasts* by Gary & Betsy Riccuci
- *Marriage* by Paul Tripp
- *War of Words* by Paul Tripp
- *Practicing Affirmation* by Sam Crabtree

If you have questions or comments on this class, please contact Jamie Dunlop at jamie.dunlop@capbap.org or Mark Kalenak at mdkalenak@gmail.com.

The Importance of Communication in Marriage

The paradox of marriage (Gen. 2:20, 25). Communication is an important way to pursue being one flesh amidst great difference.

- Problem with oneness but no difference
- Problem with difference but no oneness

Roles of Husband and Wife

A husband

- Moving toward his wife in communication, making vulnerability safe.
- Making sufficient time for communication

A wife

- Responding to his leadership in communication.
- Helping him to lead better.

Purpose #1: To Know and Be Known

How God communicated: the word became flesh.

The importance of vulnerability.

Barrier #1 to vulnerable communication: you're not having the same conversation

Types of communication (from *Love That Lasts*)

- Small talk
- Information exchange
- Spiritual conversation
- Self-disclosure
- Value sharing
- Correction

Barrier #2: different communication styles

Drawing out the internal processor

- Asking good questions
- Summarizing what they said

Purpose #2: To Be One

Oneness doesn't necessarily require agreement.
Proverbs 27:17

How to pursue oneness when you disagree?

A. Focus on understanding

B. Start with values

We're tempted to act as if a spouse's values are wrong when in fact we simply disagree on how to apply those values in the present situation.

When values conflict.

Purpose #3: To Build Each Other Up

Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear. – Ephesians 4:29

- Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths
- But only such as is good for building up
- As fits the occasion
- That it may give grace to those who hear

Encouragement

The importance of encouraging faith: Heb. 3:13, 10:24.

Paul's example: 1 Corinthians 1:4-8.

Practically: observing evidences of God's grace.

Correction

If Scripture is perfect and you are not, then correction should always be welcomed (Prov. 13:13, Prov. 17:10, Ps. 141:5).

How to receive correction well

1. Agree with God's judgment.
2. Agree with God's justification.
3. Listen to correction.