



JOYCE MEYER
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LOVE ONE ANOTHER



A TEACHING
ON MARRIAGE

Teaching Notes by Joyce Meyer

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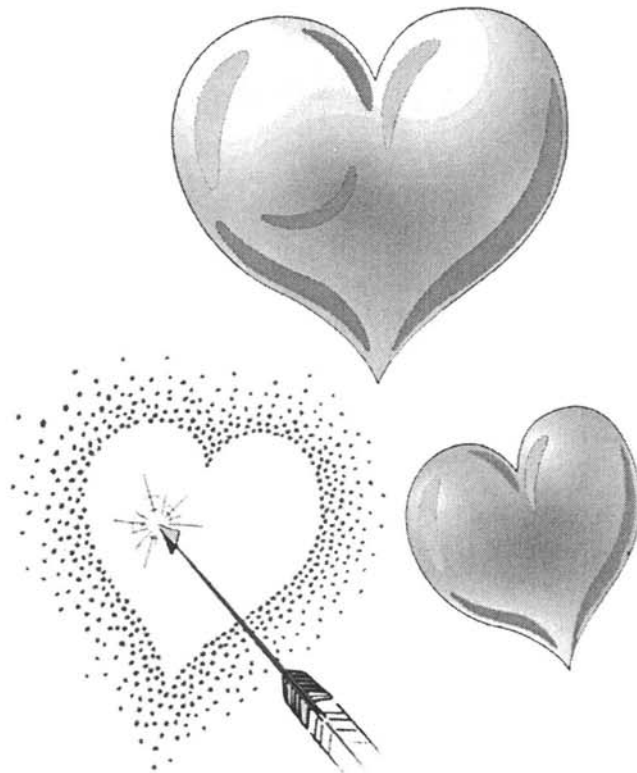
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Teaching by Joyce Meyer

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MARRIAGE SEMINAR

Love One Another

I. Beware Of Stagnation

- A. Marriage – UNION – Joining together as one
- B. Covenant (defined/Vine's) – A disposition of property, a coming together, a mutual undertaking between two parties; **each binding himself** to fulfill obligations.
 - 1. **An interesting point:** It does not contain the idea of joint obligation; it mostly signifies an obligation undertaken by a single person. (Sacrifice required.)
 - 2. Each partner is obligated to his or her part and that obligation is not dependent on whether the other person keeps his or hers.
- C. Blood Covenant – Original plan: Marriage covenant sealed when man breaks woman's hymen, and she sheds blood.
 - 1. What happens if you are not a virgin?
- D. **Obligation** – We are to do it unto God, not to get the other party to do something.
 - 1. Obligation (defined/Webster's) – Constrain, commit, restrict. The act of binding oneself to a certain code of action.
 - 2. Don't wait for your partner to obey God; **YOU start** as unto the Lord.
 - a. "L" began to obey, and **then** "D" changed (responded).

b. As unto the Lord: Ephesians 5:21-22; 6:1, 5-7

E. **The secret to happiness**

1. Don't give to get, **GIVE TO LIVE** and **LIVE TO GIVE**.
Life flows to you as you give. Let it be your lifestyle.

F. **“Be committed”**

1. Covenant – Breakers
Divorce? – Yes!
2. Also **breaking covenant** by just not doing what you originally agreed to
3. Some are daily covenant breakers.

G. **God's purpose:** To join two as one for strength, godly offspring to enjoy each other, and to complete each of us

H. **Satan's purpose:** To destroy marriages

I. **Our purpose** (this seminar): To uncover ways Satan does it and bring healing to past hurts and new determination to press on and have great marriages – not just okay marriages

Courtship moves to engagement, engagement moves to marriage, and marriage **MUST** move to a better marriage.

J. Goals for your marriage

1. Vision – Goals
 - a. **Proverbs 29:18** – Where there is no **vision**, people perish.
 - b. You must have visions and goals or you will have **STAGNATION**.

- 1) Stagnate – Not flowing, motionless, STALE, not advancing or developing, inactive, or standing still.
 - 2) Example: Stagnant pool of water at golf course versus the ocean by which I studied
- c. Goals, visions, purpose, direction, and PLAN (God's not yours).
- 1) Short term
 - 2) Long term – Lifetime
 - 3) Spiritual goals – Things to overcome, prayer, study
 - 4) Financial goals – Budget
 - 5) Personal goals – Vacation, go out to dinner, lose weight, exercise, or go for a walk
 - 6) Household goals

2. **Passivity** – A terrible danger that is draining life from people.

- a. **Ephesians 5:14-17** – Don't be vague. Vague is dangerous.
- b. Vague – Wandering, indefinite, not clear, a term of abuse.

Vagrant = Vagabond = Roaming – Causes ruin

3. Are you **maintaining** or **moving** forward?

- a. **Romans 12:1-2** – Requires **decision**

You will never prove God's perfect will for you without decision.

- b. **Philippians 2:2** – Being of the same mind and one in purpose

- 1) Compromise or **draw straws**, but settle on something and go forward.

Example: I want a couch, and he wants a lawn mower.

- c. **Amos 3:3** – How can two walk together unless they be agreed?

4. **Ephesians 6:10-18**

- a. **Verses 10-17** – Must be in effect to have a good marriage
- b. **Verse 18** – Watch with **strong purpose**

K. The root problem or the root of **ALL** problems

1. PRIDE – “I”

- a. **Proverbs 13:10** – Pride brings strife.
- b. **Proverbs 16:18** – *Pride goes before destruction . . .*
- c. **Proverbs 6:16-17** – God hates a proud look.

II. Straight Talk To Men

A. Do **YOURSELF** a favor – Love your wife and treat her the way you want her to be (Queen).

1. **Ephesians 5:25-29, 33**
2. **Colossians 3:19**
3. **I Peter 3:7** – Treat your wife right, or your prayers will not be answered.

B. Definitions:

1. Nourish – Promote the growth of, FEED; help her be all she can be. MEET HER NEEDS – KNOW HER NEEDS.
2. Protect – (Provider) To COVER. Shield, guard, and keep from injury; supervision of one smaller. (Dave is my covering.)
3. Cherish – Hold dear, treat as precious (to hold in the mind as), appreciate, and value – TREAT HER GOOD – EXCELLENT.
4. Affectionate – Show affection and give twelve loving touches. (**SHOW** me how you feel, and it will provoke feelings in me that will reward you.)
 - a. Affection, not sex – that comes later.
 - b. Man's number one need = Sex
Woman's number one need = Affection.
5. Sympathetic – Not antagonistic; existing through mutual dependence. Marked by kind appreciation, compassion, and UNDERSTANDING.
6. Considerate – (NOT SELFISH) Thoughtful of the rights and feelings of others

(**I Corinthians: Chapter 13** and **Mark 8:34**).
7. Head – (**Ephesians 5:23-25**):
 - a. **Spiritually:** Pray; spend quality time with God. (Let your wife see you.)
 - b. **Naturally:** Take a lead role.
 - 1) Finances
 - 2) Entertainment

- 3) Children – Discipline; interest
- c. Don't sit around like a bump on a log – be involved in your family and home.
- d. Don't claim your "Headship" to get your way and not take your responsibility.
 - 1) Authority and responsibility go hand in hand.
 - 2) A time to submit (relent) to your wife – a time to stand firm and say "NO"

C. **Ephesians: Chapter 5** – Be subject to each other.

- 1. Your wife may have giftings in specific areas, and it would greatly benefit you to listen to her. Some people may have a gift of prophecy or a gift in finance (I have a gift of communication). But be wise with saying "God told me . . ."

For example: "Don't get involved with that person,"
or "Don't hire so and so."

- 2. Adam should not have submitted to Eve.
- 3. Abraham shouldn't have listened to Sarah.
(Genesis: Chapter 16)

Men, don't **LET** your wives get in trouble.
- 4. Man should not pray with his head covered.
(I Corinthians 11:3-12)
- 5. **Husband** – Master of a house, married man, steward or manager; a frugal manager.
 - a. To manage prudently and economically; conserve; mate; one that plows, cultivates land, and causes to grow.

- b. **Husbandman** – “God the Father”
(**John: Chapter 15**)
 - c. **Husbandry** – Cultivation, the object being to bear much fruit (a job).
6. **Selfish** is to be self-serving – serving yourself and expecting others to do likewise, expecting others to deny themselves and help you get all you desire.

III. Straight Talk To Women

A. Definitions:

- 1. Wife (defined/Webster’s) – A married woman
- 2. Woman – Feminine
- 3. Female – Woman
- 4. Feminine – The sex that bears young, having some quality such as **gentleness** or **delicacy**.
- 5. Helpmeet – Completer (**Genesis 2:18** – Helper meet)
- 6. Helper – The Holy Spirit is “The Helper.”

B. **Ephesians 5:22** – Submission

- 1. An attitude, not just an action
- 2. As unto the Lord
- 3. **I Corinthians: Chapter 11** is necessary for answered prayer.

C. Control, manipulation, and co-dependency

- 1. Control is witchcraft.
 - a. **Freedom** is essential to growth and happiness.

- b. **Romans: Chapter 14** – Individual convictions
- c. **Romans: Chapter 8** – Be controlled by the Holy Spirit.
- d. **I Corinthians 9:19** – I am free from anyone’s control and have made myself a bondservant to all.

2. **Manipulation** – Maneuvering everything to where you get your way (Man showing affection so he can watch football, or woman using sex to get something else she wants).

Manipulation is not being honest; it is deceitful.

3. **Co-dependency** – Occurs when “your” problem controls my behavior.

- a. Example: I had problems from being abused, but Dave didn’t let it control him.

VERY IMPORTANT: If he would have, I wouldn’t be preaching today.

- b. Example: My father had problems. My mother let him control her; and it ruined her life, my brother’s, and almost the first forty years of mine.

c. **Co-dependency** – A co-dependent is a person who is involved in a relationship with someone who is “dependent” on some kind of abnormal behavior.

The co-dependent does not really live “his own life,” but is CONTROLLED by the problem of the dependent person.

He spends most of his time trying to please the dependent person and trying to FIX, RESCUE, or HELP them.

- d. Types of dependencies that can make you co-dependent:
 - 1) Alcohol, drugs, prescription drugs (substance abuse)

- 2) Controller, manipulator (from abusive past)
 - 3) Perfectionist
 - 4) Workaholic
 - 5) Sex (perversions)
 - 6) Hypochondriac
- e. The co-dependent is so busy taking care of others that he neglects to take care of himself by making his own decisions and determining his own identity and behavior.
 - f. Unbalanced perception of responsibility
 - g. Lack of objectivity – Think they are responsible for things they are not, nor should be
- 4. Breaking free – Co-dependency is an addiction, and you will have withdrawal symptoms.

D. Submit and adapt

- 1. **Ephesians 5:22** – *Wives, be subject (be submissive and adapt yourselves) to your own husbands as [a service] to the Lord.*

Colossians 3:18 – *Wives, be subject to your husbands [subordinate and adapt yourselves to them], as is right and fitting and your proper duty in the Lord.*

I Peter 3:1 – *In like manner, you married women, be submissive to your own husbands [subordinate yourselves as being secondary to and dependent on them, and adapt yourselves to them], so that even if any do not obey the Word [of God], they may be won over not by discussion but by the [godly] lives of their wives.*

- 2. **I Peter 3:2-5** – Be meek and gentle in spirit.

Meek and gentle is an attitude that refers to humility and submission.

E. The attitude a woman should have and **DISPLAY** toward her husband – **definitions:**

1. Reverence – A godly fear, reverential fear and awe; causes carefulness in dealing, honor, respect, and a godly awe.
2. Respect – Honor is shown in the way we treat our husband and talk to him (also in thought life).
3. Defer to – Adapt to, prefer, and be secondary to.
4. Revere – Show devoted deferential honor.
5. Honor – Treat with respect; prefer, revere, and treat special.
6. Prize – Hold as valuable; treat as expensive and valuable.
7. Appreciate – Be thankful for, verbally and in heart attitude; grateful.
8. Adore – (In human sense) A personal attachment; fond of.
9. Admire – Look to for direction, advice, valued opinion, and prayers.
10. Praise – Compliment; talk of good qualities to him and ABOUT HIM.
11. Devoted – Committed (good or hard times) – same, loyal, faithful, friend, and companion – no matter what.
12. Deeply love – Love DEEPENS as given and received.
13. Enjoy – Can't enjoy if always critical; have fun with; use as created and gain fullness out of; to use for purpose given.

14. Notices him – Pays attention to, even in a crowd; to pat on back and squeeze hand.
15. Prefers – Wants to be with him above others; gives him the best cut of meat; lets him choose when a choice is to be made.
16. Venerates and esteems – The way I see him, and the value I place on him.
17. Feminine: (Webster's) The sex that bears young; having some quality such as GENTLENESS or DELICACY.
18. Meek and Gentle is an attitude that refers to humility and submission.

F. Treat him the way you want him to act.

J E R K?

Do you want a KING or a N E R D?

G. Helper

1. Encourager – Causes one to press on
2. Edifier – **Builds up** and helps him be all he can be.
 - a. Compliment him on efforts made.
 - b. Avoid nagging and being negative.

H. Playmate

1. May need to adapt.
 - a. I play golf.
 - b. Laura goes to the car races.
 - c. Sandy works out at the gym.

I. The virtuous woman (**Proverbs 31:10-31**)

1. **Verse 10:** Valuable and hard to find
2. **Verse 12:** She comforts and encourages as long as LIFE is in her.
3. **Verse 13:** A hard worker
4. **Verse 14:** Variety and creativity in the home
5. **Verse 15:** She knows the value of spending quality time with the Lord and in the Word.
6. **Verse 15:** She assigns her maids their tasks and is orderly and disciplined.
7. **Verse 16:** Decisions are not emotional; she is level headed, prudent, a good manager, and not overly involved in outside activities.

She plants fruitful vines in her vineyard and spends time in kingdom work.
8. **Verse 17:** She exercises so she is mentally alert and physically fit.
9. **Verse 18:** She stays strong and stable – even in hard times.
10. **Verses 20-22:** She sews buttons on shirts, provides clothes for the family, and makes sure the family has the things they need.
11. **Verse 23:** Husband is well known because of his fine wife.
12. **Verse 25:** She is not insecure in her marriage because she has done her part.
13. **Verse 26:** Law of kindness is in her mouth.

14. **Verse 27:** She is **NOT IDLE** (lazy, no purpose, and not bearing good fruit).

No gossip, discontentment, or self-pity – she knows it would poison her and her home.
15. **Verse 28:** Her family boasts of her and is proud of her.
16. **Verses 29-31:** This type of woman excels them all. She is to be praised. The fruit of her works will praise her.

IV. “Communication, Sex, And Money”

A. Communication

1. Not just words – Tone of voice, facial expression, and body language
2. Timing (**Ecclesiastes 3:7**) – A time to be silent, a time to speak
3. Keep your word to family members, or your words have no value.

B. Various types of communication

1. Communication for information saves a lot of confusion and misunderstanding.

(Use examples to clarify point.)

- a. Don’t **assume** they know – communicate.
- b. **Presumption** causes trouble.

Example: “I thought you wouldn’t mind if I accepted the invitation to dinner with friends.”

2. Communication for fellowship
 - a. Requires **LISTENING** and talking

- b. Look at the person and look interested. Give them your undivided attention.
- c. Talk about things that are interesting to the other person (a form of giving – a form of sowing seeds).
- d. Don't be **challenging** and provoking. Be humble, not argumentative (**Galatians 5:26**).
- e. **Ecclesiastes 3:7** – A time to be silent and a time to speak. (Some personalities require more quiet.)

3. Communication and confrontation

- a. Communicate with God first.
- b. **Ecclesiastes 3:7** – A time to be silent (wait), and a time to speak (confront)
- c. **For the timid and easygoing** – Act in obedience when God says act.
- d. **For the bold and active** – Wait in obedience when God says wait.

4. Avoid strife!

- a. A soft answer turns away wrath.
- b. Contention comes by pride.
- c. Stay on the subject to be discussed.

C. Sex

- 1. **Hebrews 13:4** – Keep the marriage bed holy and undefiled.
 - a. **I Corinthians 7:2-5** – Don't refuse each other your conjugal rights except as agreed for fasting.

- b. Beware of sexual perversion. Examples:
 - 1) Pornography
 - 2) Unnatural acts
 - 3) Filthy, obscene talk (**Ephesians: Chapter 4**)
 - 4) Treat the sex act as **holy**. It is an expression of love.
- c. Have God's attitude, not the world's.

2. For people with problems

a. **Abused** – Obedience to the Holy Spirit will deliver you.

b. Lack of desire

- 1) Pray
- 2) Have hormones checked.
- 3) Check your mental attitude toward sex. Do you see it as important?
- 4) Marital sex is warfare. If one partner is rejected, it opens a door for the devil.
- 5) Are you always too tired?
- 6) Are you always too busy?
- 7) Physical fitness is important for healthy desire.

D. Money

1. Manage it, don't let it manage you.

a. Following emotions, lust, and the pride of life (keeping up with other people) are major pitfalls.

- b. Prudence (defined) – Economy, management of resources.
- 2. Charge cards and debt
 - a. Avoid it; don't spend tomorrow's prosperity today.
 - b. Debt causes stress.
 - 1) Stress causes arguments.
 - 2) Arguments cause strife.
 - 3) Strife destroys marriage.
 - c. You can't buy happiness.

Matthew 6:33 – Seek first the kingdom and all these things will be added.
- 3. **I Timothy 6:10** – *For the **LOVE** of money is a root of all evil . . .*
 - a. What you **LOVE** the most, you give first priority to.
 - b. It's hard to be a giver if you **love** money.
 - c. You must be a giver to have God's protection on your life (including your marriage).
- 4. What to do if you can't agree on what to spend it on:
 - a. Beware of "my money – your money" with the exception of personal allowances.
 - b. Compromise – Take turns choosing items to buy.
 - c. Be aware of the cost of living. Men, go to the grocery store with your wives occasionally.
 - d. Both partners should be involved in the planning and disposition of your money.

5. **Selfishness** is an open door for great financial problems.
 - a. Causes you to not want to “wait for things”
 - b. Causes you to not “**consider your partner**”
 - c. Causes you to “disobey God”

V. Serving God Is Serving One Another

- A. Servant – One who lives to be a benefit to another. One who **SACRIFICES** for another’s joy or fulfillment.
- B. Sacrifice – The only “status symbol” in the kingdom.
 1. **Romans 12:1** – God requires “living sacrifices,” **NOT MARTYRS.**
 2. Sacrifice – To give up your rights and desires for another with no attitude of martyrdom.
- C. Martyr – A great and constant sufferer; and in this instance, one who lets you know they are suffering.
- D. Serving one another through love
 1. **Galatians 5:13-14** – Serve one another; don’t be selfish. This is the law concerning good relationships.
 - a. Love is not selfish (**I Corinthians: Chapter 13**).
 - b. Selfishness destroys many marriages.
 - c. We are not created for selfishness, so it blocks your joy. You often **think** it is the other person’s fault.
 2. Serving God is serving one another.

- a. **Colossians 3:18-24** – Serving one another is serving Christ.
 - b. **Matthew 25:36-46** – We have not served Christ if we have not served one another.

- E. Jesus – Our example
 - 1. **John 13:1-17** – Washing feet
 - a. Menial tasks
 - 1) Example: Pick up a sock and say nothing because you know your mate has a weakness in that area.
 - 2) Example: Help clean a house without acting like a martyr because you know your spouse has a weakness in that area. (If the wife works outside the home, share the responsibilities at home.)
 - 3) Example: Encourage your partner to go enjoy themselves even if you can't go. (Some people need more entertainment than others.)
 - 4) Other areas: Get a drink, run an errand, make coffee, help carry a load, etc.
 - 2. **Matthew 20:26-28** – Serving sets people free.
 - a. Serving others sets them free to love you (especially if coming from abusive past or rooted in **rejection**).
 - b. **Matthew 23:11-12** – Whoever will be great must be servant of all.

VI. Rejection And Acceptance

- A. How a root of rejection affects your marriage

1. Rejection-based people don't trust.
 - a. Dave and I in confrontation
 - b. I perceived his disagreement as rejection.
2. Serving and confronting at the same time will bring healing.
 - a. Must be serving with no motive to get anything
 - b. I served to be accepted; and my boss said, "You always do the right thing, but somehow I feel that something isn't right."
3. Rejection-based people pressure others to **PROVE** their love.
 - a. Buy me things.
 - b. Don't **ever** do more for someone else than me.
 - c. Don't confront me.
 - d. Don't tell me I'm wrong.
4. Rejection-based people have a hard time **showing affection**. They fear rejection.
5. Rejection-based people feel rejected if they don't get "verbal or visual" approval.
 - a. No compliment at dinner means to the rejection-based wife: "The dinner wasn't good or wasn't appreciated."
 - b. If the husband doesn't **say**, "I like your hair, dress, or idea," then that means he doesn't.

B. Acceptance and total commitment

1. God showed me that lack of total commitment is an opening for the devil.
 - a. “If you do this again, I will leave.” (Even in your thinking)
 - b. “If you do this again, I’m closing my heart to you.”

**PLANNING FOR WALLS
ASSURES THE BUILDING OF THEM.**

2. “I want you to change, but I love you even if you don’t.”

Your marriage cannot survive or thrive on **threats**.

**GO AND LIVE IN PEACE AND
BE HAPPY EVER AFTER!!**

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