Happy Valentine's Day

The Spirit Of Marriage

- I want to discuss with you the <u>Holy Spirit's</u> role in a marriage.
 - You must know God created marriage <u>perfectly</u> and calls marriage, "the holy institution that He loves."

Malachi 2:11

Verse 11 says: They have **<u>profaned</u>** the Lord's holy institution.

Holy – means – set **apart** for God

First:

- God created marriage to succeed <u>100</u> percent of the time.
 - 2. You have a <u>100</u> percent chance of success in marriage when you do it <u>God's</u> way.

In Genesis 1, God created everything and looked at it, and said "It's good"

Except one thing – He saw man **by himself** and said that's not good – so He created **marriage**.

 Marriage is the <u>first</u> institution God created and it is the <u>foundational</u> institution of society.

Before God created anything else, God created marriage as the **foundation** of society.

Here is the world history in a nutshell:

- 4. As goes **marriage**, as goes **society**.
 - The first thing the Devil does to destroy any society is to destroy marriage in that society.

Here is the good news: when God is going to rebuild a society, He does it two ways:

- Number 1 the gospel of Jesus Christ
- Number 2 God rebuilds the marriage
- 5. The number one thing that people need is <u>Jesus</u>, and the number two thing people need is <u>family</u>.

Here is the second thing setting my message up:

- Marriage works based on God's <u>plan</u> and or His <u>Word</u>.
 - In 1930, **83** percent of adult Americans were married.
 - Today, <u>49.7</u> percent of adult Americans are married.

Question: What is the difference between 1930 and today?

- People **believed** the Bible in 1930.
- Society based their <u>values</u> on the Bible.
- 6. To the degree that we have <u>rejected</u> the Word of God, marriage does not work in our society.
 - * I submit to you Church, we need to go back to the Word of God and make it the <u>foundation</u> of our lives and our marriage.

Here is marriage Biblical mathematics:

Two plus one = **one**

- 7. Two people who **invite** the Holy Spirit in their marriage become **one**.
- 8. Because the Holy Spirit **binds** us together into the **deepest** intimacy possible in a marriage.

Here is the other part of Biblical marriage mathematics:

Two minus one = two

- 9. Two people who <u>reject</u> the Holy Spirit in their lives remain **divided**.
 - You cannot enjoy this intimacy and joy in your marriage until you <u>invite</u> the Holy Spirit in your marriage.

God through the Holy Spirit fills us and meets our deepest needs that is **impossible** for your spouse to fill.

Remember the story of the woman at the well who had five husbands:

- Jesus said to the woman if you keep drinking from that well, you will always be **thirsty**.
- But, if you knew the gift of God was talking to you, you would ask of Him and <u>never</u> thirst again.
- 10. Jesus was saying, you are trying to get your soul thirst met from a **man**.

11. Your deepest needs cannot be met by a **human being**.

Here are the four basic needs:

- Acceptance
- Identity
- Purity
- Purpose
- 12. Many people are not acknowledging only God can meet our four basic needs, so they naturally transfer the <u>responsibility</u> to their spouse or another human being setting themselves up for <u>failure</u>.

In your relationships, stop demanding out of each other only **Jesus** can fulfill.

If you would just ask Me, I would meet the need of your **soul thirst** and you will never need to drink out of your well again.

13. We are designed to love God <u>first</u> and out of the <u>overflow</u> of God's love, we then love <u>each other</u>.

The third thing:

 The Holy Spirit allows us to love <u>beyond</u> our human capacity.

1 John 4:16

- 14. Love isn't something, it is **someone**; God is **love**.
- 15. God's love is a love that **never leaves**.

Hebrews 13:5b

5... "I will never leave you nor forsake you."

From day 1 – He says, I'm all in.

Galatians 5:22-23

The love I am talking about comes from <u>God</u> and or from <u>outside</u> of us (we don't have <u>love</u>)

We don't have the capacity to love apart from **God**.

Remember in the Garden of Eden:

- God told Adam not to partake of the Tree of life and the day you do, you will <u>die</u>.
- The Bible tells us when God created Adam, He breathed into his nostrils the **breath** of life.
- That was not oxygen, that was the Holy Spirit.

Why do I know that?

Answer: Because when Adam and Eve partook of the Tree of life, they still had oxygen in their lungs, but the Holy Spirit **departed** from them.

They died **spiritually** the day they ate of the tree.

That was Genesis 3 – in Genesis 6, says, the entire world was **immoral** and **corrupt**.

That's what happens when we don't have the Holy Spirit in our <u>lives</u> and in our <u>marriage</u>.