

EPHESIANS 5:17

*Wherefore be ye not unwise, but understanding what the will of the Lord is.*

#### 4. The \_\_\_\_\_ to Serve My Spouse

PHILIPPIANS 2:5 - 8

*<sup>5</sup> Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: <sup>6</sup> Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: <sup>7</sup> But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: <sup>8</sup> And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.*

A. Study my \_\_\_\_\_ for the purpose of understanding.

1 PETER 3:7

*Likewise, ye husbands, dwell with them according to knowledge, giving honour unto the wife, as unto the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life; that your prayers be not hindered.*

B. Find \_\_\_\_\_ ways to serve my spouse.

C. Make the necessary \_\_\_\_\_ for my spouse.

JOHN 15:13

*Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.*

1 JOHN 3:16

*Hereby perceive we the love of God, because he laid down his life for us: and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren.*

**Conclusion:** \_\_\_\_\_

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# MARRIAGE ILLUSIONS

Today's Lesson:

## Meet-Me-Halfway Illusion

a good marriage is one where each partner contributes 50%

### Why we believe it:

We come to marriage with a perspective based on a combination of selfish human nature, unrealistic expectations, and an imbalanced concept of teamwork.

### What the Bible says about it:

MATTHEW 5:40 - 42

*<sup>40</sup> And if any man will sue thee at the law, and take away thy coat, let him have thy cloke also. <sup>41</sup> And whosoever shall compel thee to go a mile, go with him twain.*

*<sup>42</sup> Give to him that asketh thee, and from him that would borrow of thee turn not thou away.*

EPHESIANS 5:25

*Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it;*

**Introduction:** \_\_\_\_\_

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## QUOTE

*“For every couple, the honeymoon ends and the hard work of building a lasting marriage begins.”—Dennis Rainey*

### 1. The \_\_\_\_\_ in Meeting Halfway

- A. Our \_\_\_\_\_ and loyalty are based on our spouse’s performance.

PHILIPPIANS 2:3

*Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves.*

- B. Our \_\_\_\_\_ hinge on and wait for our spouse’s actions.

JAMES 4:17

*Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin.*

- C. We are unable to objectively \_\_\_\_\_ “halfway.”

- D. Our \_\_\_\_\_ is our spouse’s responsibility, not our own.

MATTHEW 7:3

*And why beholdest thou the mote that is in thy brother’s eye, but considerest not the beam that is in thine own eye?*

### 2. The \_\_\_\_\_ of Selfishness

- A. It focuses on \_\_\_\_\_ instead of giving.

PHILIPPIANS 2:4

*Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others.*

- B. It results in \_\_\_\_\_ instead of patience.

- C. It spends \_\_\_\_\_ and resources to please self instead of others.

MATTHEW 6:21

*For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.*

- D. It places \_\_\_\_\_ on my spouse instead of myself.

### 3. The \_\_\_\_\_ of a Servant

- A. Servanthood is founded upon \_\_\_\_\_.

1 PETER 5:5

*Likewise, ye younger, submit yourselves unto the elder. Yea, all of you be subject one to another, and be clothed with humility: for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble.*

- B. Servanthood \_\_\_\_\_ on serving rather than being served.

GALATIANS 5:13

*For, brethren, ye have been called unto liberty; only use not liberty for an occasion to the flesh, but by love serve one another.*

- C. Servanthood does good without an \_\_\_\_\_ of receiving something in return.

MARK 10:45

*For even the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many.*

- D. Servanthood focuses on my \_\_\_\_\_ over my rights.