



# TIGHTEN the knot

- Anyone can **Tie** the knot, very few learn how to **tighten** the knot.

- A great marriage is the union of two **great forgivers**.

25 Now the man and his wife were both naked, but they felt no shame. Genesis 2:25 (NLT)

Great Promise to make:

- I promise to **confide** in you & not **hide** from you.

- If the foundation of our marriage is **faulty**, the structure will be **unstable**.

21 Honor Christ by submitting to each other. Ephesians 5:21 (TLB)

22 For wives, this means submit to your husbands as to the Lord.

23 For a husband is the head of his wife as Christ is the head of the church. He is the Savior of his body, the church.

24 As the church submits to Christ, so you wives should submit to your husbands in everything.

25 For husbands, this means love your wives, just as Christ loved the church. He gave up his life for her. Ephesians 5:22-25 (NLT)

**Our needs are different:**

- Man's greatest need is **respect**.

- Woman's greatest need is **love**.

- Choose to **love** everyday.

**Choices that reflect God:**

- We choose to not use the word **divorce**.

4 Love never gives up... Keeps going to the end...Love never dies. 1 Corinthians 13:4,7,8 (MSG)

5 ...God assured us, "I'll never let you down, never walk off and leave you," Hebrews 13:5 (MSG)

- We choose to **sacrifice**.

31 ...Ask yourself what you want people to do for you; then grab the initiative and do it for them! Luke 6:31 (MSG)

2 Be full of love for others, following the example of Christ who loved you and gave himself to God as a sacrifice to take away your sins...Ephesians 5:2 (TLB)

- We choose to be **friends** first.

24 Friends come and friends go, but a true friend sticks by you like family. Proverbs 18:24 (MSG)

17 Friends love through all kinds of weather, and families stick together in all kinds of trouble. Proverbs 17:17 (MSG)

15 I'm no longer calling you servants because servants don't understand what their master is thinking and planning. No, I've named you friends because I've let you in on everything I've heard from the Father. John 15:15 (MSG)

- We choose to **Protect**.

9 Love prospers when a fault is forgiven, but dwelling on it separates close friends. Proverbs 17:9 (NLT)

17 GOD-of-the-Angel-Armies said, "They're mine, all mine. They'll get special treatment when I go into action. I treat them with the same consideration and kindness that parents give the child who honors them. Malachi 3:17 (MSG)

- We choose to **Provide**.

4 God is my helper! The Lord is the provider for my life. Psalm 54:4 (GW)

## Have Questions? Text them to: (559)-464-5754

Questions that can be used in Connection Groups:

*These questions also work well for personal time with God.*

- What scripture and/or point spoke most to you from the Talk on Sunday?
- Did you do anything to tighten the knot in your marriage this week?
- Why is forgiveness so important in a marriage? How well do you forgive?
- What does a faulty foundation look like in a marriage?
- Do you choose to love your spouse (and others) everyday? How can we do better at that?
- How do each of the choices listed on your notes reflect God?
- When we use the word "divorce" in our marriage, what kind of culture does that create? Why does God not threaten to leave us?
- How does sacrifice strengthen our marriage?
- Why is friendship so important in a marriage? What does that look like?
- What are some ways we can protect our spouse? (Prayer, encouragement, believing the best about them, etc)
- Marriage is about helping and serving each other. What are some ways we can provide for our spouse's needs?
- Which of the choices listed will you work into your life this week?

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