



TIGHTEN The Knot

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

26 "Humanly speaking, it is impossible. But with God everything is possible." Matthew 19:26 (NLT)

The Love Cycle:

- We are captivated.
- We become careless.
- We get complacent.

- Restoring your marriage begins with restoring you.

3 He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake. Psalm 23:3 (ESV)

- Most people bring expectations into marriage, and they are usually centered on - "Me".
- God designed marriage to be centered on - "We" > "Me".

5 'For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh?'

6 So they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate." Matthew 19:5-6 (NIV)

We tighten the knot with:

- Shared submission.

21 ...submit to one another out of reverence for Christ. Ephesians 5:21 (NLT)

- Submission is an attitude that says: I'm here to serve you.

13 ...don't use your freedom to satisfy your sinful nature. Instead, use your freedom to serve one another in love. Galatians 5:13 (NLT)

- Shared direction.

3 Do two people walk hand in hand if they aren't going to the same place? Amos 3:3 (MSG)

3 Some Pharisees came and tried to trap him with this question: "Should a man be allowed to divorce his wife for just any reason?" 4 "Haven't you read the Scriptures?" Jesus replied. "They record that from the beginning 'God made them male and female.' 5 And he said, 'This explains why a man leaves his father and mother and is joined to his wife, and the two are united into one.' 6 Since they are no longer two but one, let no one split apart what God has joined together." Matthew 19:3-6 (NLT)

- A goal of marriage is unity.

16 "I hate divorce," says the GOD of Israel. ..."I hate the violent dismembering of the 'one flesh' of marriage." So watch yourselves. Don't let your guard down. Don't cheat. Malachi 2:16 (MSG)

- A purpose of marriage is godly offspring.

15 GOD, not you, made marriage. His Spirit inhabits even the smallest details of marriage. And what does he want from marriage? Children of God, that's what. So guard the spirit of marriage within you. Don't cheat on your spouse. Malachi 2:15 (MSG)

- Shared Intimacy.

- Most people think intimacy is romance. Intimacy is transparency.

14 Come, my shy and modest dove— leave your seclusion, come out in the open. Let me see your face, let me hear your voice. For your voice is soothing and your face is ravishing. Song of Songs 2:14 (MSG)

2 commitments:

- I Commit to do one thing that will tighten the knot.
- I Commit to a date night this week.

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?
- Do married couples in general spend enough time and energy tightening the knot? Why?
- Do you think that people enter marriage with selfish expectations? Why do you think this is? What are some of those selfish expectations you've seen?
- Why is having a shared submission important? Why is it difficult? What happens when a couple doesn't have a shared submission?
- Why is a shared direction important? Why is this difficult for some? What happens when there is no shared direction?
- Talk about the two purposes of marriage.
- Why is having a shared intimacy important? Why is it difficult? What happens when a couple doesn't have a shared intimacy?
- What do you think about the point that was made - "Most people think intimacy is romance. Intimacy is transparency."?
- Did you agree to the two commitments? What were yours? (Share if you can)

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