5 Biblical Truths of Marriage

Taken from "Understanding Your Spouse" class. By Pastor Joe Lavagnino

The bible has so much to say about how to have a healthy, intimate relationship with our spouse. These truths can be counter-cultural and feel very different than what our society tells us. However, if we work at implementing them on a regular basis relying on Christ's strength, we will see major improvement:

- 1. **God has designed your core personality traits on purpose and with great delight!** God has given you your core personality traits that should not change and should be celebrated! Being compatible with our spouse is adjusting to and celebrating the differences that exist in your marriage.
- 2. **Conflict is the natural process God uses to increase our character and intimacy!** If our relationships are experiencing conflict it could be an indication that the Lord is trying to reveal underlying issues. Arguing and debating can be an opportunity to grow as individuals and increase your intimacy as a couple.
- 3. **Love is an unconditional commitment to an imperfect person!** Our marriages should be patterned after the way Jesus has loved us. Once we recognize our spouse's primary "language" we can better show them the love and affection they need.
- 4. **Finances are symptomatic of deeper spiritual issues that need to be addressed.** A major reason for divorce is disagreements regarding finances. How we handle our money is an indication of our faith more than anything else. We need to refrain from using money as power, avoid "his/her" accounts, and make major financial decisions together.
- 5. **God can help you become the "right" mate for your spouse.** The bible instructs us to focus on improving our marriage and not wonder if we actually found "Mr./Mrs. Right." By working on mutual love and submission to each other, we can become the person our spouse needs.

