

Aveleigh Celebrates Marriage Sunday June 25,2017
Your Year of Worship
Sermon: WHAT A LITTLE LOVE AND RESPECT CAN DO FOR YOU
Text: Eph. 5 21-33 p. 1257

Intro; Almost 11% of all marriages (in the USA) take place this month. They're called June brides.

I. What Are the Two Key Ingredients for Successful Relationships?

A. The Discovery from Research!

The University of Washington studied 2000 couples for 20 years and found that **L**_____ and **R**_____ are the two key ingredients.

Shaunti Feldhahn asked a random sample of American males, “*Would you rather be left alone and U_____ in the world or viewed as inadequate and D_____ by everyone?*”

Dr. Emerson Eggerichs asked 7000 people, “*When in a conflict with your spouse do you feel U_____ or D_____?*”

B. The Revelation from the Bible! L = love, R= respect

“*However, each one of you also must L_____ his wife as he loves himself, and the wife must R_____ her husband*” Ephesians 5:33 (NIV)

“*. . . wives . . . even if any (husbands) are disobedient to the word, they may be won . . . as they observe your . . . R_____ behavior*” 1 Peter 3:1-2 (NASB)

“*Husbands, L_____ your wives and do not be embittered against them.*” Colossians 3:19 (NASB)

II. What Happens When We Innocently Overlook These Two Key Ingredients for Successful Relationships?

A. We Step On Air Hoses Connected to the L_____

& R_____ Air Tanks!

B. We Start the Crazy Cycle: Without L_____

She Reacts Without R_____ and Without

R_____ He Reacts Without L_____!

III. How Do We Ensure Applying These Two Key Ingredients in Order to Succeed in Relationships?

A. By Valuing God's Design.

“(Jesus said) Have you not read that He who created them from the beginning made them M_____ and F_____?” Matthew 19:4 (NASB)

B. By Doing What God Calls Me to Do in the Marriage.

- I will trust in my spouse's goodwill even though I have moments when I feel they lack concern to please me. (1 Corinthians 7:33-34 NASB)
- I will accept some marital trouble as God's design between two people who have personal preferences that differ. (1 Corinthians 7:3-4, 28 NASB)
- I will follow God's revelation to me in Ephesians 5:33 since my spouse affords me the opportunity to show my loving and reverent obedience to God. (Ephesians 5:21 NIV)
- I will wholeheartedly buy into the truth that everything I do in my marriage counts and leads to an eternal reward. (Ephesians 6:8-9 NIV)

Prayer: Loving God, Help US TO HAVE BETTER, HEALTHIER, LOVING, and FAITHFUL RELATIONSHIPS. Amen

FOUR FOR THE ROAD: 1. What did you find personally helpful in today's lesson?

2. Do you have children, friends or acquaintances that ever have strained marriages?

3. How assistance in the past have you given to others with marriage difficulties?

4. Could the principles of LOVE and RESPECT enrich relationship other than marriages?

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Call to Worship

Leader: Come, all you who are weary.

People: Come, all you who are broken.

Leader: Come, all you who are beaten down, abused, depressed and full of sorrow.

People: Come, come and worship.

Leader: Let the praise of your heart be honest and pure.

People: Find joy and rest in his presence. He is here, waiting for you.

Leader: Come let us worship God

Prayer of Confession

Father in heaven, have mercy on us. We are sinful, prideful, selfish people. We spend so much time looking out for ourselves, trampling on the people closest to us as a result. We have broken our relationships with friends, with our children, with our spouses. Oh, how desperately we need a Savior! Break our hearts and teach them how to love again. Help us not to fear love, but to love courageously. Forgive us for failing. Thank you for picking us up and restoring us. We trust you and love you. In your holy name, Amen.