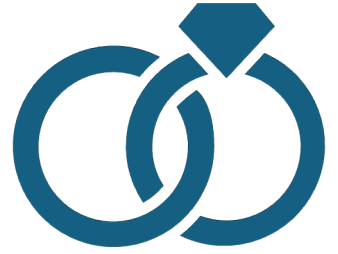


Week Two: Our Desire



Establishing a clear vision of what we desire for our marriage.

Week One: God's Design

Establishing a clear vision of God's purpose for marriage.

**What was the most
memorable date with your
spouse this past year?**

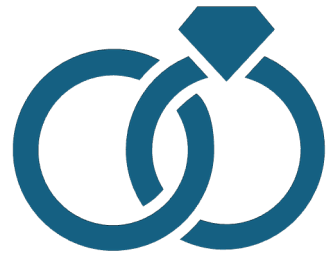


TABLE TALK

“Walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit.”

- Ephesians 4:1-3



“Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of others.” - **Philippians 2:3-4**



A SACRED HISTORY!



ZONDERVAN® GROUP RESOURCES

SACRED MARRIAGE

GARY THOMAS



SESSION 4:
SACRED HISTORY

 ZONDERVAN® GROUP RESOURCES

SACRED MARRIAGE

GARY THOMAS



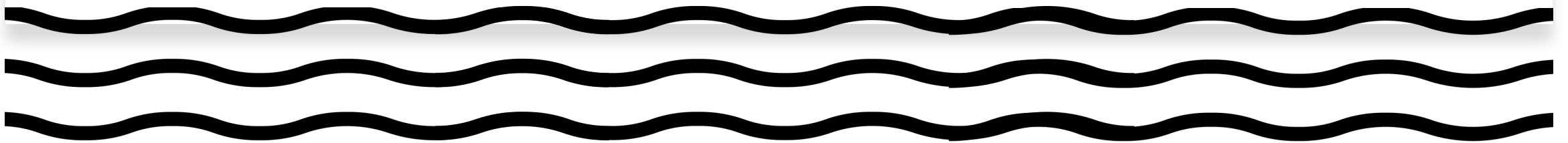
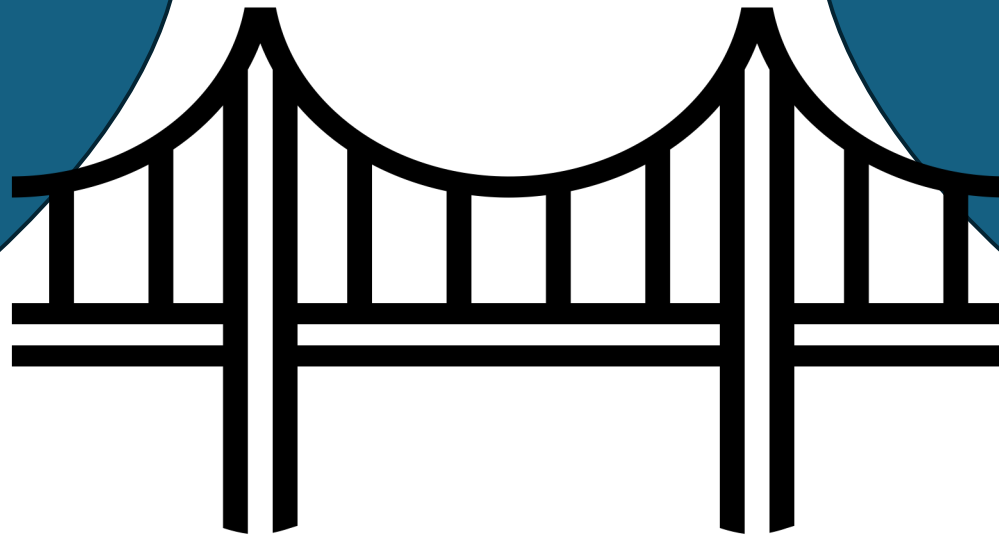
SESSION 4:
SACRED HISTORY

Thoughts?



**God's
Design**

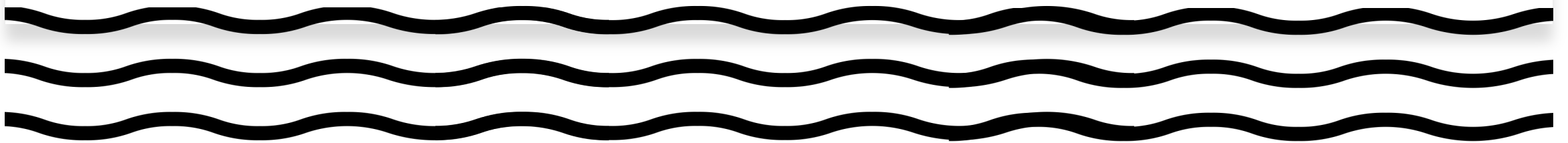
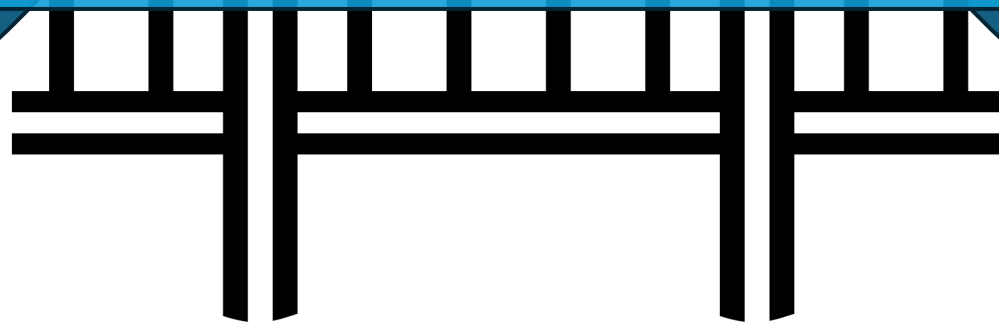
**Our
Desire**



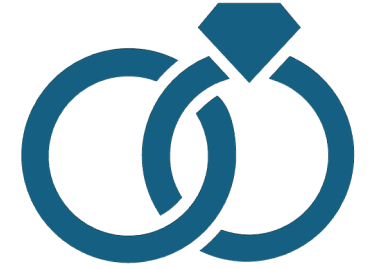
God's
Design

Purpose Statement

Our
Desire

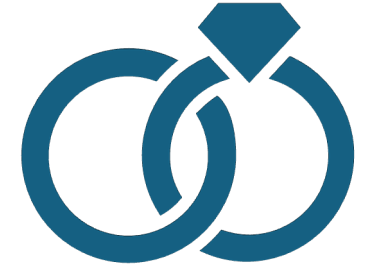


Before You Begin ...



What do I want my spouse to say about me after five years of marriage? After twenty-five or fifty-five years of marriage?

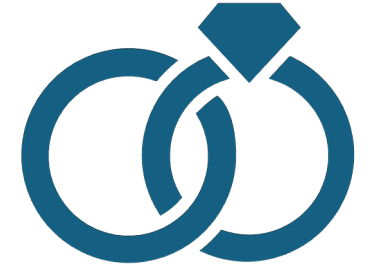
Before You Begin ...



What character qualities do I want my spouse to see in me?

How do I want my spouse to describe our relationship?

Mission Statement



- 1. What are the fundamental values of our marriage?**
The core 8-10 that most define and guide your marriage (family, home).

Acceptance
Care
Charity
Children
Commitment
Compassion
Contentment
Cooperation
Creativity
Dignity
Education
Encouragement
Fairness
Faith

Family
Forgiveness
Flexibility
Fun
Generosity
Grace
Gratitude
Honesty
Hope
Hospitality
Helpfulness
Integrity
Joy
Kindness

Leadership
Love
Loyalty
Mercy
Patience
Peace
Physical Health
Reliability
Respect
Responsibility
Self-Control
Security
Servanthood
Spiritual Growth

Tact
Trust
Understanding
Vocations

And more



Acceptance
Care
Charity

Family
Forgiveness
Flexibility

Leadership
Love
Loyalty

Tact
Trust
Understanding

Value Exercise

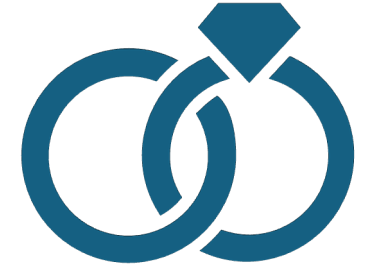
Encouragement
Fairness
Faith

Integrity
Joy
Kindness

Security
Servanthood
Spiritual Growth

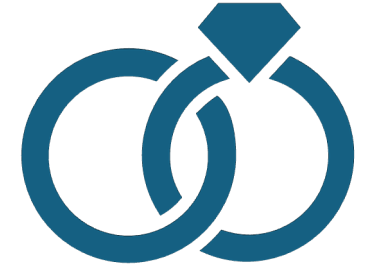


Mission Statement



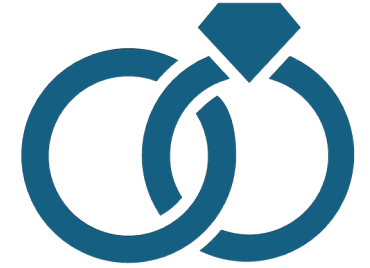
2. What is the purpose of our marriage? The mission of your ministry considering your gifts, passions, goals, and experiences.

Mission Statement



- 3. How will you best accomplish your purpose?**
The specific behaviors, attitudes, practices, and beliefs will you pursue.

Mission Statement



4. How will your marriage be remembered? Begin with the end in mind and work toward that vision of the journey.

Holcomb Values

1. **Spiritual:** To grow in personal relationship with Jesus Christ, with commitment to worship, outreach, and ministry. To be the spiritual leaders of our home.
2. **Love:** To love God & others (Mt. 22:37) as an exclamation point! (Not period.)
3. **Family:** All family (blood and “like family”) can count on the Holcombs.
4. **Children:** Lauren & Katelyn ... we commit, to the very best of our ability, to meet all your needs – spiritual, material, emotional, physical, and mental. To take responsibility for training you up in the Lord.
5. **Home:** Within our walls and all that home stands for, we value hospitality, support, encouragement, and safety.
6. **Integrity:** Consistent in our behavior, even when no one else is around.
7. **Leadership:** A priority of teaching, guiding, directing ... at home, church, work.
8. **Fun:** Laughter and a view of the glass being always at least half-full. Thinking differently and enjoying the journey of this brief life.
9. **Creativity:** Change is good. Unexpected is good. Outside the box is good. Exceeding expectations through creative excellence.
10. **Vocational Satisfaction:** Excelling in the responsibilities of the workplace. Finding enjoyment in work and using positive pressure to motivate, while leaving the job at the job.
11. **Accomplishment:** Completing tasks & recognizing accomplishments of others.
12. **Knowledge:** Valuing diversity with an openness to never stop learning – faith, history, science, technology, hobbies, and more.
13. **Security:** Avoiding debt, intentionality in planning education and retirement.
14. **Imagination:** Dreaming, remaining childlike when necessary.
15. **Health / Fitness:** Running, working out, staying in shape to serve longer and enjoy family more richly.

Example Values & Mission Statement



The ~~Holecomb~~ Family Mission Statement

The ~~Holecomb~~ family will, above all else, seek to live out Matthew 22:37 - We will love God and love others. In our desire to know the Lord more each day, we will grow closer to one another. We will prayerfully be examples of His love, seekers of His truths, and followers of His commandments.

Our purpose in life is to glorify God and live each day as if it were our last. And if (when) it is our final day, we will take great assurance in the claim of an eternal home through Jesus Christ. Because of that, we will actively be involved in sharing that promise with others.

The church will be our connection to community and fellowship. We will attend, serve, and worship within a local church body. Accountability will begin in our own home but be strengthened by the support of fellow believers. Sunday School, Bible studies, and church ministry will serve as the primary source of our spiritual growth and encouragement.

Scripture reading, prayer, and devotion will be foundational to our home. Christy and I will actively watch for distractions and pitfalls in order that we not falter in our dedication to the Lord and to each other. We will share our spiritual progress / distress freely and frequently.

As a family we will be loyal, loving, cooperative, supportive, and trusting of each other. We will learn from one another and always allow for open communication, regardless of how painful or difficult. Because of the distance that separates us from other extended family, these shared values will be critical to our shared journey.

Our home will be open and warm. A place of refuge for family and friends, a place of warmth for all who enter. We will demonstrate God's love through our hospitality and in sharing whatever resources the Lord allows into our life; *nuestra casa es tu casa!*

Joy will define us. It will be the predominant mood in our home. In the unforeseen, yet guaranteed times of difficulty that lay ahead, joy will provide comfort to the pain and relief to the hurt.

We will be good neighbors; friendly, encouraging, and sensitive to the needs of those around us. As individuals we will remain "down-to-earth" and grounded in the character that has been demonstrated for us from a long line

of honorable, loving, and selfless role models. We have a great responsibility to continue that legacy.

As parents we will continuously teach, train, guide, and direct ~~Lauren and Katelyn~~. We pray to be patient, loving, grace-filled parents who are consistent in discipline and actively present. Our mission is to raise responsible, mature, godly children (teens, young ladies, women).

Should the Lord lead them into marriage, we will pray for the young man, a God-fearing man, who will be their best friend, spiritual leader, provider, protector, and who will love them as much, if not eventually more than, we do (at least they can try!). We will love them as our own sons.

Lastly, beginning with the end of this earthly journey in mind

We will be remembered by our faith, and our passion to know / love God.
We will be remembered by our commitment to biblical values.
We will be remembered by our compassion and kindness to others.
We will be remembered by our laughter, smiling faces, and family fun.
We will be remembered by our endless optimism and encouragement.

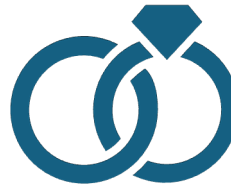
However, whether we are remembered or not, we will live each day as a divine gift, only promised for the moment and no guarantee of tomorrow, making our daily commitment to this mission statement especially critical.

Original: November 3, 1993

Updated: Friday, January 09, 2004

Job 28

"There is a mine for silver and a place where gold is refined. Iron is taken from the earth, and copper is smelted from ore. Man puts an end to the darkness; he searches the farthest recesses for ore in the blackest darkness. Far from where people dwell, he cuts a shaft, in places forgotten by the foot of man; far from men he dangles and sways. The earth, from which food comes, is transformed below as by fire; sapphires come from its rocks, and its dust contains nuggets of gold. No bird of prey knows that hidden path, no falcon's eye has seen it. Proud beasts do not set foot on it, and no lion prowls there. Man's hand assaults the flinty rock and lays bare the roots of the mountains. He tunnels through the rock; his eyes see all its treasures. He searches the sources of the rivers and brings hidden things to light. **"But where can wisdom be found? Where does understanding dwell?"** 13 Man does not comprehend its worth; it cannot be found in the land of the living. The deep says, 'It is not in me'; the sea says, 'It is not with me.' It cannot be bought with the finest gold, nor can its price be weighed in silver. It cannot be bought with the gold of Ophir, with precious onyx or sapphires. Neither gold nor crystal can compare with it, nor can it be had for jewels of gold. Coral and jasper are not worthy of mention; the price of wisdom is beyond rubies. The topaz of Cush cannot compare with it; it cannot be bought with pure gold. **"Where then does wisdom come from? Where does understanding dwell?"** It is hidden from the eyes of every living thing, concealed even from the birds of the air. Destruction and Death say, 'Only a rumor of it has reached our ears.' God understands the way to it and he alone knows where it dwells, for he views the ends of the earth and sees everything under the heavens. When he established the force of the wind and measured out the waters, when he made a decree for the rain and a path for the thunderstorm, then he looked at wisdom and appraised it; he confirmed it and tested it. **And he said to man, 'The fear of the Lord--that is wisdom, and to shun evil is understanding.'"**



The Critical Two ...



**What is the most *intimate*
we can be with our spouse?**



In Prayer.

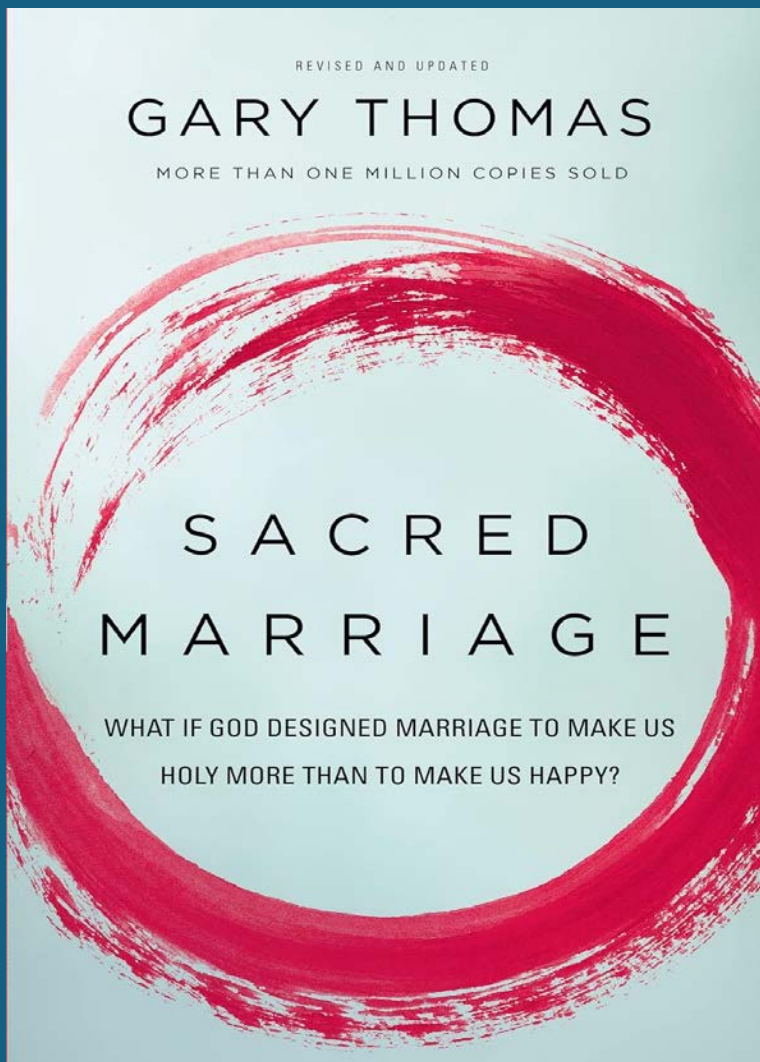


**What is one of the most
life-giving questions we can
ask in our marriage?**



**“How can I best
help you?”**



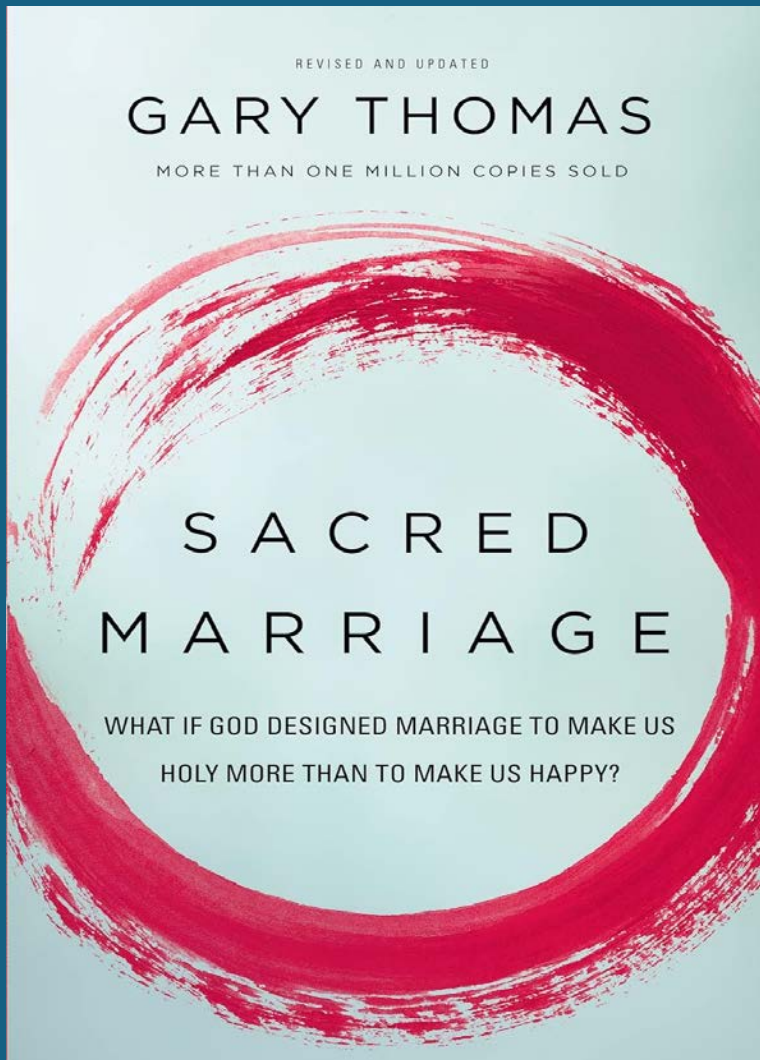


Make Me a Servant

Chapter Ten

**“Marriage can build in us
a servant’s heart”**





Sacred Marriage

GARY THOMAS

6 Sessions • Avg Session - 20 Min • 2012

Watch Together

Resources

Study Resources

Description

In this six-session small group Bible study (guide sold separately), *Sacred Marriage*, writer and speaker Gary Thomas invites you to see how God can use marriage as a discipline and a motivation to reflect more of the character of Jesus. Your marriage is much more than a union between you and your spo...

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God's Purpose for Marriage: More Than We Imagine
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The Refining Power of Marriage
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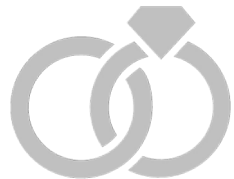
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A Clear Vision of Marriage

March 17 & 24
ROCC Equipping Class

