

FIREPROOF



SERMON SERIES

NOVEMBER 2 - DECEMBER 14

NEVER LEAVE YOUR PARTNER BEHIND

Message 3 – “Love For A Lifetime”

“Love For A Lifetime”

- *Nov. 2 - He Said/She Said - Appreciating the God-designed differences between men and women*
- *Nov. 9 - He First Loved Us - God's love for us & how it enables us to love others*
- **Nov. 16 - Love for a Lifetime - Marriage as a lifelong covenant**
- **Nov. 23 - MISSIONS CONVENTION and Faith Promises with Missionary Jack Belin.**

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- **Nov. 30 - Breaking Free - Freeing ourselves from temptations**
- **Dec. 7 - Forgiveness - Offering and receiving forgiveness**
- **Dec. 14 - A Better Way of Loving - Unconditional Love**

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Love Never Must End

*Equally Strong At All
Points*

Costly

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Matthew 19:3-6: 3 Some Pharisees came to him to test him. They asked, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife for any and every reason?" 4 "Haven't you read," he replied, "that at the beginning the Creator 'made them male and female,'

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5 and said, '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. Therefore what God has joined together, let man not separate."

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**For BETTER, for worse, for RICHER
for poorer, in sickness and in HEALTH**

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FOUR STAGES OF MARRIAGE:

1. *ROMANCE = SUMMER*



“this phase of love is a prank played on us by our otherwise rational minds to trick us into doing things that we would normally never consider.”

- M. Scott Peck

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FOUR STAGES OF MARRIAGE:

2. *REALITY = FALL*



*Choosing to love is
what reality is all
about.*

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- *All couples have friction during the first two years of marriage over several adjustments. They have to work out a mutually satisfying routine of work, sleep, social activities, and more. They need to agree about how to be involved in the rituals of each other’s parental families at major holidays and family rituals. They must learn the subtleties of each other’s non-verbal behaviors and ways of communicating feelings. They have to come to terms with their desires to change each other. And they must make explicit the unspoken and previous unconscious assumptions about marriage that they brought to their union.*
– *Wayne Oates: Husbands and Wives, Victor Books, 1988, p. 328.*

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FOUR STAGES OF MARRIAGE:

3. *RESENTMENT = WINTER*



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Colossians 3:12-14 (NIV)

12 Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.

13 Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another.

Forgive as the Lord forgave you.

14 And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.

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FOUR STAGES OF MARRIAGE:

4. *REBUILDING = SPRING*



“They say that 50 percent of marriages end in divorce, but my question is, how well is the other 50 percent doing?”

- Alvin Slaughter

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- *To rebuild any marriage both members of the marriage must practice three great skills:*

- **REMEMBERING**
- **ASKING**
- **DECIDING**

Ephesians 4:32 (NIV) 32 Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.

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THE
Love Dare

- *COUPLES:*
- *SOMETIME THIS WEEK,
RENEW YOUR VOWS TO
EACH OTHER*

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THE
Love Dare

- ***SINGLES: PICK OUT A SKILL TO WORK ON:***
- ***1. AFFIRMING DIFFERENCES IN MEMBERS OF THE OPPOSITE SEX***
- ***2. FORGIVING***
- ***3. DECIDING TO LOVE AND KEEP ON LOVING A CLOSE FRIEND.***

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**I, _____, take you _____ to be my
wife/husband.**

To have and to hold from this day forward,

For better, for worse,

For richer, for poorer,

In sickness and in health.

To love and cherish as long as we both shall live.

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Next Week – Missions Service w/Jack Belin