

The Second Greatest Gift

The Sweetest Gift?

- A mother's *smile*?
- A mother's *frown*?

The Greatest Gift?

Salvation

The Second Greatest Gift?

- Jg.13:....8
- Lk.2:....27

“My husband / wife is no help”

Self-centered, unresponsive, unspiritual

Ac.16:1, Then he came to Derbe and Lystra.
And behold, a certain disciple was there, named Timothy, the son of a certain Jewish woman who believed, but his father was Greek.

2 Tim.1:5, when I call to remembrance the genuine faith that is in you, which dwelt first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice, and I am persuaded is in you also.

I. Do Not Marry For Wrong Reasons

1. Desire

- Jg.14:1-3
 - Samson's marital immaturity reflects careless attitude of Israel, Jg.17:6.
 - Some learn the hard way, 14:16-18.
 - Worse: never learn at all, Jg.16.

Pleasing to his eyes

Tears in his eyes

No sight in his eyes

1. Desire

2. Desperation

- Gn.24:1-5
 - What if he can't find right wife?
 - 6-8, no compromise.
 - In some areas we don't compromise –

No food	Eat sticks?
No shoes	Trash can lids?
No wife	Jezebel?
No husband	Nabal?

1. Desire
2. Desperation
3. Disgust

- Disgust of parents
- Disgust of loneliness
- Disgust of peers
 - Gn.2:18-24, Adam and Eve

I. Do Not Marry For Wrong Reasons

**II. Marry For Right
Reasons**

1. Christian

- Pr.5:18, rejoice with.
- Pr.18:22, good thing.
- Pr.19:14, from Lord.
- Ps.31:10 (12:4) trust, success, praise.
 - Talented people can make mistakes.

Virtuous; strong;
ability; noble;
of heroes...

31:12, 23, 28

Solomon,
1 K.11

Abigail,
1 Sm.25

You can't marry a child of the devil without having trouble with your father-in-law.

1. Christian

- Pr.5:18, rejoice with.
- Pr.18:22, good thing.
- Pr.19:14, from Lord.
- Ps.31:10 (12:4) trust, success, praise.

Live joyfully with the wife whom you love all the days of your vain life which He has given you under the sun, all your days of vanity; for that is your portion in life, and in the labor which you perform under the sun – Ec.9:9

1. Christian

2. Considerate

- Psalm 126
 - Restoration: laughter, singing, great things, glad
- Psalm 127
 - Family: sleep, heritage, reward, happy
- Pr.19:13; 21:9

Selfishness / unkindness:
Marriage termites

1. Christian

2. Considerate

- What we are at home can have greater impact on child's eternal destiny than how we worship.
- If we are hypocrites at home . . .

1. Christian
2. Considerate
3. Conscientious

Accepts responsibility

- 1 Tim.5:8, But if anyone does not provide for his own, and especially for those of his household, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever

1. Christian
2. Considerate
3. Conscientious

Accepts responsibility

- 1 Tim.5:8
- 1 Tim.5:14, Therefore I desire that *the younger widows* marry, bear children, manage the house, give no opportunity to the adversary to speak reproachfully

'Thingitis' affects every important relationship

1. Christian
2. Considerate
3. Conscientious
4. Concerned

- Greatest concern: serving God and going to heaven.
- 1 Pt.3:7
 1. Dwell...with understanding.
 2. Honor. Submission / honor.
 3. Heirs together. *Joint* heirs...

1. Christian
2. Considerate
3. Conscientious
4. Concerned

- Mal.2: husband's treatment of wife affects his relationship with God.

Twice blessed is the child whose parents love each other: (Tit.2:4) having affection/love for a husband. Like each other.

Thrice blessed: children know how to marry.

Their marriage partner may *complete* or *collapse* the training of godly parents.