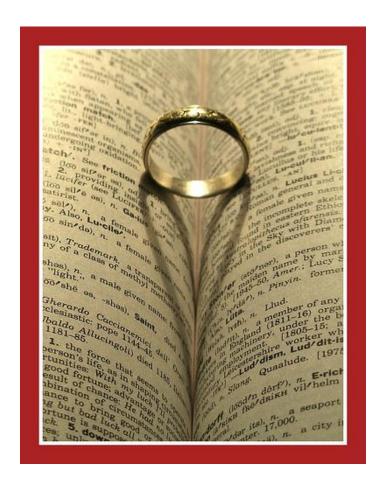
Restoring Love in Marriage

Feast of Wedding of Cana of Galilee 01.22.12

Water & Wine in Marriage

- "For love is as strong as death, Jealousy as cruel as the grave; Its flames are flames of fire, A most vehement flame. Many waters cannot quench love, Nor can the floods drown it." (SS 8:6-7)
 - Water = lack of love
- "For your love is better than wine." (SS 1:2)
- "We will be glad and rejoice in you. We will remember your love more than wine." (SS 1:4)
 - Wine = love



Focus on yourself

- "And why do you look at the speck in your brother's eye, but do not consider the plank in your own eye? Or how can you say to your brother, "Let me remove the speck from your eye'; and look, a plank is in your own eye." (Matt. 7:3-4)
- "Blind Pharisee, first cleanse the inside of the cup and dish, that the outside of them may be clean also." (Matt. 23:26)

MATTHEW 7:3



Adjust your expectation



- Guess what, you married a sinner
 - "...<u>all</u> have sinned and fall short of the glory of God." (Rom. 3:23)
- Lack of love and acceptance is the root cause of unhappy marriages
- Studies have shown that the <u>inability to accept differences</u> is the leading predictor of failed marriages.

Forgive, Forgive, Forgive

- "For if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you." (Matt. 6:14)
- God uses our weaknesses for a divine purpose
 - "Then Moses said to the Lord, "O my Lord, I am not eloquent, neither before nor since You have spoken to Your servant; but I am slow of speech and slow of tongue." So the Lord said to him, "Who has made man's mouth? Or who makes the mute, the deaf, the seeing, or the blind? Have not I, the Lord" (Exo. 1:10-11)
 - "And he saw an Egyptian beating a Hebrew, one of his brethren. So he looked this way and that way, and when he saw no one, he killed the Egyptian and hid him in the sand." (Exo. 2:11-12)
 - "Now the man Moses was very humble, more than all men who were on the face of the earth" (Num. 12:3)

Forgive, Forgive, Forgive

- Lack of forgiving hinders the healing
- Forgiveness is a personal contribution to the healing process



Separate yourself from selfish affairs

- Types of "affairs":
 - Activities
 - Materialism
 - Career
 - Family
 - Personal
 - Fantasy
- "I deserve complete fulfilln" happiness."
- "These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world." (Jn. 16:33)



Invite a Guest into your home

- "For where two or three are gathered together in My name, I am there in the midst of them." (Matt. 18:20)
- "The churches of Asia greet you. Aquila and Priscilla greet you heartily in the Lord, with the church that is in their house." (1 Cor. 19:16)

