



Family Christian Center

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Family Life Development & Application {FLDA} Department

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CLASS NAME: Prep for Marriage – 20/20 Vision | Lesson 2: Eye Dominance
CLASS SESSION: Sundays, Feb - April 2020 @ 10:45 a.m. **LOCATION:** The Photon Room
INSTRUCTOR(S): Elders Conell and Rhonda Hollins ~ me2weministries@gmail.com

Jeremiah 29:11 New International Version (NIV)

“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the LORD, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

Our Father always has a plan! Find comfort in knowing that when the Lord created the earth, he was creating it with you in mind. The bible makes it clear that the Lord took time to carefully craft the vision of man. No detail was spared, he shaped us, numbered every hair upon our heads and after His work of art was finished...he breathed new life into man; giving him dominion to make His vision complete.

Genesis 1:26-28 King James Version (KJV)

²⁶And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have **dominion** over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.

²⁷So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.

²⁸And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and **subdue it**: and have **dominion** over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth.

What is Dominion? [do·min·ion | \ də-ˈmi-nyən \]

Definition of *dominion*

1: DOMAIN 2 law: supreme authority: sovereignty having *dominion* over the **natural world**

Eye Dominance

Ocular dominance (also called eye preference) refers to visual preference in one eye over the other. Most people are unaware they favor one eye for visual input. The brain processes and builds images using slightly different views from the right or left eye. Most people tend to have a dominant eye so that even when both eyes are open, one is processing visual input more than the other. ~Eyeque

Matthew 6:22-23 New International Version (NIV)

²²“The eye is the lamp of the body. If your eyes are healthy,^[a] your whole body will be full of light. ²³But if your eyes are unhealthy,^[b] your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light within you is darkness, how great is that darkness!

“I” Dominance

Pride is the deterrent of understanding. The bible calls us, *to lean not on our own understanding but to Trust in the Lord with all of heart and he will direct our path (Proverbs 3:5-6)*. Often, man has believed that their own source is themselves. Believing that thoughts, creativity and inspiration were solely created by the eye of the beholder. The Lord detest pride, arrogance and manmade beliefs.

manmade

man-made
or **man-made**

adjective:

Made by humans rather than occurring in nature; **artificial or synthetic**: *a man-made lake; manmade fibers.*

Luke 12:18-20 New King James Version (NKJV)

¹⁸So he said, 'I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build greater, and there I will store all my crops and my goods. ¹⁹And I will say to my soul, "Soul, you have many goods laid up for many years; take your ease; eat, drink, and be merry." ' ²⁰**But God said to him, 'Fool! This night your soul will be required of you; then whose will those things be which you have provided?'**

Proverbs 19:21 New International Version (NIV)

²¹Many are the plans in a person's heart,
but it is the LORD's purpose that prevails.

Every Gift, Every Dream & Every Vision Comes from God!

James 1:17 New International Version (NIV)

¹⁷Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows.

We didn't get here by ourselves. Even our dreams for love in marriage are not our own. There is an order to everything God provides. However, sometimes we attempt to circumvent God's vision with our own. At times, seeking marriage, to those who are unfit, unequally yoked or are poor choices. All because so many are impatient to wait on God. In turn creating a distorted view of marriage; one that God never intended for you. One that typically stunts your growth, mismatches gifts and is linked to unstable character. Do you really believe that God would link you to someone who suffers with poor insight, lack of imagination and poverty of mind? Our thoughts are not his thoughts and our ways are not his ways. ***He created the inspiration for thought but at no point are our imaginations intended to take over God's call.***

2 Corinthians 10:5 King James Version (KJV)

⁵Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ;

Breathing Life into the Vision of Marriage

Genesis 2:7 New International Version (NIV)

⁷Then the LORD God formed a man^(a) from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being

Are you Seeing Eye to Eye?

2 Corinthians 6:14 King James Version (KJV)

¹⁴Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness?

Do you Have Blinders on?

Studies show that new love can be blind and new marriages delusional. Research has shown that newlyweds overstate their partner's good qualities, forget the bad ones, and rate their own

relationship with annoying superiority. This state of bliss is commonly referred to as having “**blindness on**”. This can be dangerous under the wrong circumstances. Yet according to recent studies, having blindness on is often better, than not, as it turns out optimism can help you maintain realistic grasp on the goal at hand for your relationship.

“Positive biases and happiness seem to push each other along,” says Garth Fletcher, psychology professor at Victoria University of Wellington in New Zealand

Sunny optimism can be great as long as you and your partner learn to communicate well, are committed to each other. Having a positive overall outlook, that things will work out for the best and that my spouse or partner is really a good person is going to remind you of why you’re in that relationship in the first place. Therefore, it is so important to remain focused and have 20/20 vision when looking at your relationship, in order to not fall victim to the myths of marriage and relationships.

A myth is defined: as a widely held but false belief or idea i.e. a misrepresentation of the truth. (also known as an urban legend). Here are some common myths that we all grow up with.

Your marriage needs many qualities to be successful and long-lasting. Some of these characteristics are love, support, tolerance, a deep emotional connection, good communication, realistic expectations, caring, nurturing, and a sense of humor.

So why has a good marriage become such an urban legend. Many myths that surround marriage can give you unrealistic expectations. Disappointment is sure to come if you are looking for the Cinderella-like happily-ever-after, a storybook marriage simply does not exist. It is easy to get caught up in such things, when we look at what is surrounding us in books, movies, and television. A good book wraps up a monumental love story in 200 pages or less, A movie like The

” ***Notebook***” can summarize love’s true meaning in 2 hrs. and 3 minutes; including the credits. Countless TV shows monopolize 30 minutes to an hour of our time showing the world fictitious love story that show more fantasy than reality...until the next episode.

How to Predict a Happy Marriage – Drs. Les & Leslie Parrot

- Over the last 3 decades, there has been much research into the ingredients of a happy marriage. As a result, we know more about building a successful marriage than ever before. Les and Leslie Parrott, Gary Smalley, Smart Marriages, etc.
- Seven indicators:
 1. Healthy expectations of marriage
 2. An accurate and realistic concept of love (1 Corinthians 13)
 3. A positive attitude and outlook toward life
 4. The ability to communicate their feelings
 5. An understanding and acceptance of each other and gender differences (Personality Types: Choleric, Sanguine, Melancholy, Phlegmatic)
 6. The ability to make decisions and settle arguments
 7. A common spiritual foundation and goal
- Living in a successful marriage is then less a mystery than learning certain life skills.
- Many couples wrongly blame in-laws, each other, money, sexual issues, but generally the hot points in marriage usually stem from poor communication, gender/personality issues, and lack of spiritual health (unwillingness to forgive, etc.).

Have You Faced the Myths of Marriage with Honesty?

Myth 1: If I just find the right soulmate, I will live happily ever after without ever being challenged.

Myth 2: I can discover whether my fiancé and I are compatible by living together before marriage.

Myth 3: Families of origin don't make any difference when you're really in love.

Myth 4: We expect exactly the same things from marriage.

Do you have a **clear picture** of what life together will be like? Have you discussed it in practical detail? How have your ideas of married life been formed?

A. Unspoken Rules (who will cook, clean, take out garbage, shop, etc.)

What unspoken rules might you have inherited from your family of origin?

Examples:

- Don't interrupt another's work
- Don't talk about money in public
- Don't express anger
- Don't work too long
- Leaving clothes all over is not OK
- Tip big or don't tip
- Boundary issues with the opposite sex

B. Unconscious Roles

- Just as an actor in a play follows a script, married couples fall into unconscious roles, almost involuntarily, inherited usually from parents, but also personal dispositions.

Examples:

- The planner
- The boss
- The navigator
- The shopper
- The cook
- The comedian
- The fixit person
- The cleaner

What roles might you follow? Make your roles conscious!!

Myth 5: Everything good in our relationship will get better.

- Many things improve in relationships, but some things become more difficult.
- Every successful marriage requires necessary losses.
- In choosing to marry, you inevitably go through a mourning process.

What are three things you will have to give up when you marry?

Examples:

- Childhood
- Parents
- Freedom and carefree lifestyle
- Idealized image you have of your partner
 - We want to see our partner at their best
 - We don't consider they might get fat or irritable

“No matter whom we fall in love with, we sooner or later fall out of love if the relationship continues long enough. The honeymoon always ends, the bloom of romance always fades.” - Dr. Scott Peck

- Romantic love is actually chemistry in the brain and blood which is measurable.
- Has a half-life of about 3 months.
- Thus, the essence of married love is covenant and affection, not romance.
- No human being can fulfill your idealized dreams.
- BUT: disenchantment enables you to move into deeper intimacy.

Myth 6: Everything bad or difficult in my life will disappear.

- This myth has been handed down through countless generations, especially in movies such as Cinderella.
- Deep down, we all long to meet a Prince Charming or Cinderella and make all the hurt go away.
- No matter how glorious is marriage, it is no substitute for inner spiritual healing and transformation.
- Marriage does not erase personal pain or eliminate loneliness. Why? Because people get married primarily to further their own well-being, not to take care of their partner's needs.
- The bad feelings and traits you carried around before marriage are still with you as you leave the wedding chapel.
- Marriage therapy vs marriage as therapy. Three Colorado psychologists discovered that many growing up in dysfunctional homes (alcoholic, abusive, etc.) healed themselves through marriage.
- Harvell Hendrix, *Getting the Love You Want*, explains that a healthy marriage becomes a place to wrap up unfinished business from childhood.

Myth 7: My spouse will make me whole.

Prov 27:17 - Iron sharpens iron, and one man sharpens another.

- Growth will occur from marriage, but not wholeness. Wholeness comes from God.
- Marriage is where the rubber meets the road of Christianity.
- Mr. or Ms. Right – marrying the wrong person? Growing in relationship.
- Enmeshed relationships – dependent on the partner. Coupled with low self-esteem, feelings of inferiority, easily controlled by partner. Want to suck happiness out of their partner, rather than personal growth.
- Opposite problem is the disengaged relationship. Living together under same roof.
- Healthy marriage is not mutual dependence, but shared life together.