



Relational Awareness ~ Lesson 4

PowerPoint Notes

REVIEW

So Far, We Have Learned About:

- Healthy vs Unhealthy Relationships
- How to Practice Love
- God's Idea of Submission

As God takes the lead in loving and **sacrificing** for us, so the **husband** takes the lead in loving and **sacrificing** for his wife.

Both husband and wife must **respect** each other, because **without respect there can be no love.**

An attitude of **criticism** is destructive in a relationship, but that does not mean that we should not **confront**.

In a healthy relationship, **both parties lovingly confront behavior** that tears down the relationship.

- Marriage as a Godly Unit

We Learned How Marriage Operates as a Body

Head & Body are mutually dependent

Finger touches hot, communicates to head,
head communicates back to protect finger

We Evaluated Relational Patterns and Tendencies

Kindness Selfishness Abuse

Today's Lesson ~ Marriage Designed

- There is no greater love than what God has shown the world through creation and His great sacrifice. Marriage is a tangible way to see what His love is all about.
- Satan continually tries to destroy the most beautiful thing God created - marriage. There are many evil distortions of marriage. They do not even come close to representing God's great love for the world.
- Male and female were made in God's image. One is not better than the other. God's creation of woman was **not** an afterthought. **God is neither male nor female.**
- Interestingly, throughout the Old and New Testaments, many of the terms for God are in the **feminine** form.

- God told Adam and Eve to take dominion over the earth, **not over each other**.
- Every person God created has **equal value**. God's will is **not** for either party in the marriage to feel less valued.
- God's plan was **never** for one person to **dominate** another or for one person to **mistreat** another.
- **Domestic Abuse** is all about **one partner dominating the other**.
- **When one person tries to control another, God's love cannot be part of the relationship.**
- God is an **unselfish God** and His plan is **for all humans to be unselfish**, like Him.

The **Fruit of the Spirit** (Galatians 5) needs to be embodied in the **marriage** relationship... **more than anywhere else on earth**.

- God's design for relationships was **not dominance over weakness**, rather **protection and caring for the weak**.
- **Oneness in marriage is based on both partners giving and serving.**

- We don't lose our identity when we are united with **Christ**.
- We don't lose our identity when we are united with our **spouse**.

To illustrate a man and a woman becoming one:





Both pieces of paper are complete on their own.

The two become one, yet maintain their own identities.

The pink and blue don't merge and turn to purple.

They are stronger together, united in purpose.

domestic KINDNESS 

GOALS FOR THIS LESSON

1. **To understand God's intention for marriage**
2. **To see the dynamics of oneness in marriage**
3. **To understand that God doesn't favor one gender over another**

***A man leaves his father and mother and is joined to his wife,
and the two are united into one.
Genesis 2:24***