

MORE 2 LIFE MINISTRIES, INC.  
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**MARRIAGE BY DESIGN**

THIS FIRST PART IS DEALING PRIMARILY WITH MARRIAGE BUT WE ALSO WANT TO DEAL WITH YOU AND YOUR CHILDREN; YOU AND YOUR MONEY; YOU AND YOUR JOBS; EVERYTHING ABOUT IT. AND WHAT I'M GOING TO ASK YOU TO DO IN THESE NEXT SEVERAL WEEKS IS SEE YOURSELF AS PART OF A MUCH BIGGER PICTURE. WE LIVE IN A COUNTRY WHERE IT'S ALL ABOUT ME AND MINE; I COME HOME, IT'S ABOUT ME AND MY FAMILY AND WHAT YOU HAVE AVAILABLE FOR ME AND MY FAMILY. ME AND MY FAMILY ARE TOPS AND PRIORITY AND YOU MUST PROVIDE SERVICES TO MEET THE NEEDS OF MY FAMILY. THAT'S NOT REALLY HOW GOD DESIGNED IT. THAT'S HOW WE GOT IN THE MESS WE'RE IN. GOD DESIGNED US TO BE PART OF SOMETHING MUCH BIGGER OTHER THAN OURSELVES AND OUR FAMILY AND OUR INDIVIDUAL LIVES AND OUR INDIVIDUAL FAMILIES BEING PART OF A MUCH GREATER AND BIGGER DESIGN AND REALIZING THAT WE EACH HAVE A DISTINCT ROLE IN THAT. THE CHURCH IS A PICTURE OF THAT. BUT UNDERSTAND, THE CHURCH IS ONLY AS STRONG AS THE MARRIAGES AND THE FAMILIES AND THE RELATIONSHIPS IN THAT CHURCH. BUT EACH PART WAS SUPPOSED TO HAVE INDIVIDUAL GIFTS. EACH PART WAS SUPPOSED TO BE SUPPLYING AND WORKING AS A BODY AND EACH PART BEING A PART AND SERVING AND BEING A PART OF IT AND NO ONE COMING IN AND SAYING WHAT DO YOU HAVE FOR ME? THE QUESTION SHOULD BE WHERE DO YOU NEED ME TO SERVE? THAT'S

EXACTLY THE WAY THE HOME IS SUPPOSED TO WORK. BUT WE LOSE THAT ALONG THE WAY BECAUSE OF ALL OF OUR STUFF.

SO IN ORDER TO SEE THAT, I ATTEMPT HAS BEEN TO GO BACK TO THE BEGINNING. BECAUSE YOU HAVE TO GO BACK TO THE DESIGN. WHEN THINGS GET MESSED UP YOU NEED TO GO BACK TO THE MANUAL. YOU NEED TO GO BACK TO THE DESIGN AND FIND OUT HOW IT WAS DESIGNED TO WORK AND SO WE HAVE GONE BACK TO THE BEGINNING TO LOOK AT THAT AND WE SAW IN CHAPTERS 1 AND 2, THE BEGINNING PART, THAT MAN HAD A PROBLEM. GOD SAID OF EVERY OTHER CREATION IT IS GOOD AND THEN HE GOT TO MAN, AFTER HE CREATED HIM, AND SAID IT IS NOT GOOD AND A LOT OF LADIES WOULD SAY YEP, STOP RIGHT THERE. THERE WAS A REASON IT WAS NOT GOOD. IT WAS NOT GOOD BECAUSE HE WAS ALONE. GOD HAD A PURPOSE THAT WENT BEYOND A LOANED US. HE COULD HAVE JUST SET ADAM HERE AND SAID ADAM I GOT YOU HERE AND I JUST WANT YOU TO COMMUTE WITH ME AND THAT WOULD HAVE MADE HIM COMPLETE AND THAT SCENERY WOULD HAVE BEEN ENOUGH. BUT NOT ACCORDING TO WHAT GOD HAD DESIGNED. SO HE CREATES WOMAN. NOT TO COMPLETE HIM. WE'RE GOING TO TALK ABOUT THAT A LITTLE BIT MORE TODAY. BUT TO BE A COMPANION; TO COME ALONG AND BE PART -- I WANT YOU TO WRITE DOWN TWO WORDS THAT WE'RE GOING TO LOOK AT TODAY AND WE'RE GOING TO LOOK AT OVER THE NEXT COUPLE OF WEEKS. GOD DESIGNED EVERY HUMAN BEING TO CRAVE TO THINGS IN THEIR LIVES. PURPOSE AND PASSION. HE MEANT FOR US TO HAVE AN UNDERLYING PURPOSE AND EVERYTHING TO DO; EVERY JOB WE PURSUE; EVERY HOBBY WE PURSUE; EVERYTHING THAT GOES IN OUR LIFE HAS AN UNDERLYING PURPOSE THAT'S

PROPELLING US ON. AND ALONG WITH THAT PURPOSE, TO HAVE A PASSION FOR LIFE. I TALK WITH SO MANY PEOPLE BECAUSE OF THE SCARS OF LIFE, HAVE DECIDED JUST TO BE NUMB. GOD DID NOT MAKE YOU TO BE NUMB. GOD MADE YOU TO BE FULLY FUNCTIONING; FULLY EMOTIONAL; FULLY PASSIONATE ABOUT LIFE. THE PROBLEM WITH MOST CHRISTIANS IS NOT THAT THEY HAVE TOO MUCH PASSIONS; IT'S THAT THEY HAVE WASTED THEIR PASSIONS ON THE WRONG THINGS. GOD WANTS US TO PUT OUR PASSION UNDER HIS PARAMETER AND FIND THAT LIFE IS GOOD. IT WAS GOOD. AND GOD HAD A PURPOSE FOR IT.

HE CREATED THIS LADY TO COME ALONGSIDE WITH HIM AND THEY WOULD LIVE AND GROW IN THIS LOVE RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD AND WITH EACH OTHER; THEY WOULD FULFILL THE STEWARDSHIP, THE MANDATE HE HAD FOR THEM ALL UNDER HIS DESIGN AND EXPERIENCE THIS COMMUNION WITH GOD AND THIS WONDERFUL LOVE RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD AS HE HAD DESIGNED IT TO BE. SO EXPANDING ON THAT, I WANT TO GO BACK TO THE FIRST CHAPTER AND I WANT TO LOOK AT TWO THINGS TODAY.

I WANT TO LOOK AT HOW GOD REVEALS NEED IN THE WAY GOD MEETS NEED. STARTING IN VERSE 26 OF CHAPTER 1 AND GOD SAID LET US MAKE MAN IN OUR IMAGE ACCORDING TO OUR LIKENESS. LET THEM HAVE DOMINION OVER THE FISH OF THE SEA, OVER THE BIRDS OF THE AIR, AND OVER THE CATTLE AND OVER ALL THE EARTH AND OVER EVERY CREEPING THING THAT CREEPS ON THE EARTH. SO GOD CREATED MAN IN OWN IMAGE. IN THE IMAGE OF GOD HE CREATED HIM. NOTICE THIS, CIRCLE IT, MALE AND FEMALE HE CREATED THEM. THEN GOD BLESSED THEM AND SAID TO THEM BE FRUITFUL AND MULTIPLY. FILL THE EARTH AND SUBDUE IT. HAVE DOMINION OVER THE

FISH OF THE SEA, OVER THE BIRDS OF THE AIR, AND OVER EVERY LIVING THING THAT MOVES ON THE EARTH. AND GOD SAID SEE I HAVE GIVEN YOU EVERY HERB THAT YIELDS SEED WHICH IS ON THE FACE OF THE EARTH AND EVERY TREE WHOSE FRUIT YIELDS SEED SO THAT IT MAY BE FOR FOOD. ALSO FOR EVERY BEAST OF THE EARTH, TO EVERY BIRD OF THE AIR, AND TO EVERYTHING THAT CREEPS ON THE EARTH IN WHICH THERE IS LIFE, I HAVE GIVEN EVERY GREEN HERB FOR FOOD AND IT WAS SO. THEN GOD SAW EVERYTHING HE HAD MADE AND INDEED IT WAS VERY GOOD. SO EVENING AND MORNING WERE THE SIXTH DAY. IN THAT FIRST DAY, THIS IS HOW IT CAME TO PASS, THAT HE MADE MALE AND FEMALE. VERSE 18. THEN THE LORD GOD SAID IT IS NOT GOOD THAT MAN SHOULD BE ALONE. I WILL MAKE HIM A HELPER COMPARABLE OR SUITABLE TO HIM. OUT OF THE GROUND THE LORD GOD FORMED EVERY BEAST OF THE FIELD AND EVERY BIRD OF THE AIR AND BROUGHT THEM TO ADAM TO SEE WHAT HE WOULD CALL THEM. AND WHATSOEVER ADAM CALLED EVERY LIVING CREATURE, THAT WAS ITS NAME. SO ADAM GAVE NAMES TO ALL THE CATTLE; TO THE BIRDS OF THE AIR AND TO EVERY BEAST OF THE FIELD. BUT FOR ADAM THERE WAS NOT FOUND A HELPER SUITABLE, COMPARABLE TO HIM. AND THE LORD GOD CAUSED A DEEP SLEEP TO FALL ON ADAM AND HE SLEPT. AND HE TOOK ONE OF HIS RIBS AND CLOSED UP THE PLACE, THE FLESH IN ITS PLACE. THEN THE RIB WHICH THE LORD GOD HAD TAKEN FROM MAN, HE MADE INTO A WOMAN. AND HE BROUGHT HER TO MAN AND ADAM SAID THIS IS NOW BONE OF MY BONES AND FLESH OF MY FLESH. SHE SHALL BE CALLED WOMAN FOR SHE WAS TAKEN OUT OF MAN. LITERALLY, SHE SHALL BE CALLED ISHA FOR SHE WAS TAKEN OUT OF ISH. NOW I'M GOING TO TALK ABOUT WHAT THAT

MEANS IN JUST A MINUTE, WHY IT'S IMPORTANT. BUT I WANT TO SAY SOMETHING THAT YOU HAVE TO GET AND YOU'RE GOING TO HEAR IT AGAIN. SHE WAS NOT GIVEN THE NAME EVE UNTIL AFTER THE FALL. I'M GOING TO REPEAT THAT IN YOUR HEAD AND COME BACK TO IT. BUT ISH AND ISHA, LORD AND LADY IN THE GARDEN. THEREFORE A MAN SHALL LEAVE HIS FATHER AND MOTHER AND BE JOINED TO HIS WIFE AND THEY SHALL BECOME ONE FLESH. AND THEY WERE BOTH NAKED. THE MAN AND HIS WIFE WERE NOT ASHAMED.

EPHESIANS CHAPTER 5 VERSE 21. THE APOSTLE PAUL, THROUGH THE INSPIRATION OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, PICKS UP ON THIS VERY IDEA GOING BACK TO THE BEGINNING AND THIS IS WHAT HE TELLS US STARTING IN VERSE 21. UNDERSTANDING THIS IS THE OPERATING BASIS FOR ALL RELATIONSHIPS BUT ESPECIALLY FOR MARRIAGE. SUBMITTING TO ONE ANOTHER AND THE FEAR OF GOD. THIS IS THE REASON I USE THE NEW KING JAMES VERSION TODAY. BECAUSE THE NIV SAYS 'IN THE REVERENCE OF GOD' AND THAT'S GOOD BUT IT DOESN'T GET THE REAL IMPACT. SUBMITTING TO ONE ANOTHER AND THE FEAR OF GOD. WIVES, SUBMIT YOURSELVES UNTO YOUR OWN HUSBANDS AS TO THE LORD. WHY DOES IT START WITH WIVES? WHY DOES IT SAY WIVES SUBMIT? VERY SIMPLE. NO MAN CAN LEAD HIS HOME UNLESS HIS WIFE LETS HIM. AMEN? CAN I GET A WITNESS? SOME OF YOU MEN DIDN'T QUITE GET THAT CELEBRITY SAY IT AGAIN. NO MAN CAN LEAD HIS HOME UNLESS HIS WIFE LETS HIM. SHE DOES NOT NEED YOU TO RULE HER LIFE. WIVES, SUBMIT TO YOUR HUSBANDS AS UNTO THE LORD FOR THE HUSBAND IS THE HEAD OF THE WIFE AS ALSO CHRIST IS THE HEAD OF THE CHURCH AND HE IS THE SAVIOR OF THE BODY. THEREFORE JUST AS THE CHURCH IS SUBJECT TO CHRIST, SO LET THE

WIVES BE TO THEIR OWN HUSBANDS IN EVERYTHING. HUSBANDS, LOVE YOUR WIVES. JUST AS CHRIST ALSO LOVED THE CHURCH AND GAVE HIMSELF FOR IT. THAT HE MIGHT SANCTIFY AND CLEANSE IT WITH THE WASHING OF WATER BY THE WORD. THAT HE MIGHT PRESENT IT TO HIMSELF A GLORIOUS CHURCH, NOT HAVING SPOT OR WRINKLE OR ANY SUCH THING THAT IT SHOULD BE HOLY AND WITHOUT BLEMISH. SO HUSBANDS OUGHT TO LOVE THEIR WIVES AS THEIR OWN BODIES. HE WHO LOVES HIS WIFE LOVES HIMSELF. FOR NO ONE EVER HATED HIS OWN FLESH BUT NOURISHES IT AND CHERISH AS IT JUST AS THE LORD DOES THE CHURCH. SO WE ARE MEMBERS OF HIS BODY AND OF HIS FLESH AND OF HIS BONES. FOR THIS REASON A MAN SHALL LEAVE HIS FATHER AND MOTHER AND SHALL BE JOINED TO HIS WIFE AND THE TWO SHALL BECOME ONE FLESH. THIS IS A GREAT MYSTERY. BUT I SPEAK CONCERNING CHRIST IN THE CHURCH. NEVERTHELESS LET EACH ONE OF YOU IN PARTICULAR SO LOVE HIS OWN WIFE AS HIMSELF AND THAT THE WIFE SEE THAT SHE RESPECTS HER OWN HUSBAND. A LOT OF READING TODAY.

I WANT TO GET BACK TO THE IDEA. NOW HOW DOES GOD REVEAL NEED? GO BACK TO GENESIS. IT IS VERY INTERESTING IN THIS FIRST DAY OF CREATION. IT WAS NOT ADAM WHO CAME COMPLAINING TO GOD, WHERE'S MY MATE? WHERE'S MINE? WHAT DO YOU HAVE FOR ME? THAT'S NOT WHAT WE SEE AT ALL. IT WAS GOD WHO WILL, IN THE STORY, IN WHAT HAPPENED, REVEAL THE NEED TO ADAM. VERY IMPORTANT TO SEE. SO HOW DOES HE DO THAT? I WANT YOU TO WRITE THIS DOWN. HOW DOES HE REVEAL NEED? PROBLEMS. SOME OF YOU WOULD LIKE TO SAY I DON'T WANT PROBLEMS AND IF I WALK WITH GOD I WON'T HAVE ANY. THE REASON I'M COMING TO CHURCH IS BECAUSE I HAVE SO

MANY PROBLEMS THAT IF I START COMING TO CHURCH, I WON'T HAVE PROBLEMS ANYMORE. YOU ARE REALLY IN THE WRONG PLACE THEN. HE REVEALS NEED THROUGH TO LET MOM, THROUGH PROBLEMS, FEW CRISES. AND THAT IS EXACTLY WHAT WE SEE. ADAM HAS JUST BEEN MADE. EVERYTHING IS GOOD. SO GOD SAYS ADAM, WHAT I WANT YOU TO DO ON THE VERY FIRST DAY OF CREATION, IS I WANT YOU TO NAME THE ANIMALS. ADAM SAYS ALL RIGHT. SO HE STARTS NAMING THE ANIMALS. NOW I DON'T KNOW HOW MANY ANIMALS THERE WERE AT THAT TIME, PROBABLY NOT AS MANY AS TODAY, BUT THERE WERE ANIMALS AND HE STARTS NAMING THEM. IN THE PROCESS OF NAMING THE ANIMALS, TWO THINGS HAPPEN. NUMBER ONE GOD REVEALS ADAM'S POSITION AS HAVING DOMINION OVER THE ANIMALS. BUT LET ME SAY SOMETHING VERY IMPORTANT. YOU ARE NOT JUST A GREATER ANIMAL. YOU ARE NOT A HIGHER EVOLVED MAMMAL. YOU ARE A SPECIAL CREATION OF GOD TO HAVE DOMINION OVER THE MAMMALS. YOU ARE TO HAVE LEADERSHIP AND RULERSHIP OVER THIS EARTH. I AM NOT AGAINST ECOLOGY AND I THINK WE OUGHT TO PROTECT THE PLANET. I'M ALL FOR THAT. AND IF YOU WANT TO BE GREEN, BE GREEN. BUT LISTEN TO ME. YOU'RE NOT JUST AN ANIMAL. WE DON'T HAVE TO LIVE LIKE THEM. WE WERE SET UP HEART FROM THE ANIMALS FROM THE VERY BEGINNING AND HE REVEALS THAT TO ADAM. HE SAYS ADAM, YOU SEE ALL THESE ANIMALS? YOU CAN NEVER BE PART OF THEM. BUT THERE WAS A PROBLEM IN THAT PROCESS THAT WE NOW SEE A PREDICAMENT. ADAM REALIZES HE'S SEPARATED FROM THE ANIMALS BUT HE HAS NOBODY TO SHARE HIS LIFE WITH. YES, HE HAS GOD BUT THE PROBLEM WITH GOD AS HE IS INVISIBLE. GOD WANTS TO BE ABLE IN A

PHYSICAL WORLD TO HAVE A PHYSICAL RELATIONSHIP, A DYNAMIC RELATIONSHIP, THAT WE WILL SEE AS TIME GOES ON, LIKE GETTING INTO THE RIGHT RELATIONSHIP, BUT WILL DEMONSTRATE WHAT A RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD IS LIKE. SO THERE IS THIS ALONENESS AND THERE IS NO ONE TO SHARE A LIFE. THERE IS NO PARTNER SUITABLE. WHY DOES GOD DO THIS? WHY DIDN'T HE JUST CREATE THEM BOTH AT THE SAME TIME AND WHY DOES HE GO THROUGH ALL THIS RIGA-MA-ROE? WHY DOESN'T HE JUST STAND THEM UP AND SAY NOW WE'RE GOING TO HAVE A LESSON HERE SIT DOWN ADAM AND EVE LET ME TELL YOU ADAM AND EVE, YOU'RE SET APART FROM THE ANIMALS AND I MADE YA'LL FOR EACH OTHER. WHY DOESN'T HE JUST DO THAT? ISN'T THAT HOW WE WOULD DO IT? WE'D JUST MAKE THEM BOTH AT THE SAME TIME AND THEN HAVE A LECTURE. BUT YOU'RE GOING TO GO HOME TODAY AND YOU'RE GOING TO REMEMBER MAY BE 6% OF THIS MESSAGE, IF THAT MUCH AND I'M GOING TO TELL YOU BY THE END OF THE WEEK, I'M NOT GOING TO REMEMBER WHAT I SAID. AND WE KNOW THE POINT WHERE GOD DID GIVE THEM A LECTURE WHEN HE SAID DON'T EAT OF THAT TREE. THEY SIMPLY FORGOT AND THEY ATE OF IT ANYWAY. SO GOD DOES A UNIQUE THING AND HE ALLOWS BY NEED TO REVEAL GOD'S DESIGN. NOW LISTEN TO THIS. THIS IS GOD'S DESIGN AND IT HAS BEEN HIS DESIGN SINCE THE BEGINNING OF TIME. NEED AND SUPPLY. WRITE IT DOWN. NEED AND SUPPLY. IT WORKS LIKE THIS. THROUGH EVENTS; THROUGH CRISIS; THROUGH DILEMMAS; THROUGH PROBLEMS; FRUSTRATION; THE NEEDS OF OUR LIFE CRASHING, COMES SCREAMING TO THE SURFACE OF OUR LIVES. AND AS THEY COMES SCREAMING TO THE SURFACE OF OUR LIVES, THEY ARE ULTIMATELY TO DIRECT US BACK TO

`GOD WHOM WE WERE MADE COMPLETELY DEPENDENT UPON. NOW THAT I HAVE SAID THAT REAL FAST, LET ME SLOW DOWN AND SAY IT AGAIN. GOD DESIGNED US WITH NEED. LOOK AT THE PERSON BESIDE YOU AND REALIZE THEY ARE NEEDY. DO I GET A WITNESS? MY WIFE TOLD ME THE OTHER DAY THAT I WAS NEEDY. AND DARN IT SHE'S RIGHT. I WAS WHINING I THINK AT THE TIME. NONE OF YOU MEN DO THAT, DO YOU? SHE SAID YOU'RE NEEDY. YES I AM! I WAS CREATED THIS WAY; I WAS CREATED NEEDY. NEED WAS NOT THE CONSEQUENCE OF THE FALL. LISTEN TO MAKE. NEED IN LIFE WAS NOT THE CONSEQUENCE OF THE FALL, IT WAS THE DESIGN OF CREATION THAT THROUGH LIFE, THROUGH CRISIS, AND ALL THAT STUFF, IT WOULD COME CRASHING THROUGH YOUR COMFORT; CRASHING THROUGH YOUR INDEPENDENCE; CRASHING THROUGH YOUR ROUTINE AND AS IT DID SO, IT WOULD CAUSE YOU TO STEP BACK AND START REACHING OUT FOR SOMETHING TO MEET THE NEED; SOMETHING TO SUPPLY FOR THIS NEED AND ULTIMATELY THAT WAS TO TAKE US AS GOD INTENDED BACK TO HIM; TO REALIZE THE ONLY PLACE YOU'RE GOING TO GET ALL OF YOUR NEEDS IN YOUR LIFE SUPPLIED IS BACK AT THE CREATOR. GOD KNEW WHAT HE WAS DOING. THE NEED WAS NOT TO CREATE DEPENDENCE; IT SIMPLY REVEALS YOUR DEPENDENCE. YOU WERE MADE TO BE DEPENDENT ON GOD ALONE. PLEASE UNDERSTAND THAT. GOD DID NOT CREATE EVE JUST SO ADAM WOULD HAVE A SEX PARTNER. OOH IT GOT QUIET. IT WAS SOMETHING ELSE GOING ON HERE; SOMETHING ELSE MUCH BIGGER; THERE HAD NEED AND IT WAS CONSTANTLY TAKING THEM BACK BUT IT IS A RISKY BUSINESS. BECAUSE WHEN SATAN SAW NEED, HE GOES AHHH. GOTCHA! YOU'RE NEEDY; YOU ASK QUESTIONS. SOMETIMES GOOD QUESTIONS;

SOMETIMES CRAZY QUESTIONS BUT I'M CONSTANTLY ASKING WHY? HOW MUCH? WHAT'S FOR ME? WHAT'S MINE? WHEN DO I GET IT? SO I DON'T KNOW HOW LONG ADAM AND EVE HAD BEEN IN THE GARDEN. THEY HADN'T HAD CHILDREN YET. THAT WAS THE DESIGN. THEY WERE MADE FERTILE SO THEY HADN'T HAD CHILDREN YET. WE DON'T THINK SHE WAS PREGNANT YET SO I DON'T THINK THEY WERE THERE LONG AT ALL. AND SHE'S STANDING BY A BUSH; BY A TREE. NOW HERE'S THE PROBLEM WITH NEED FROM THE OTHER END. SATAN IS GOING TO USE IT AGAINST YOU. GOD HAS GIVEN IT TO YOU TO REVEAL, TO SHOW YOU, TO KEEP YOU DRIVING BACK TO HIM BUT SATAN IS GOING TO USE IT AGAINST YOU; TO SEDUCE YOU AWAY FROM GOD. THAT'S WHAT THE WHOLE THIRD CHAPTER IS ABOUT. SEDUCING YOU AWAY FROM GOD. ALL OF LIFE SATAN IS TRYING TO SEDUCE YOU AWAY, SEDUCE YOU AWAY, SEDUCE YOU AWAY. HOW DOES HE DO IT? WORRY. I'VE GONE TO MEDDLING NOW. ANXIETY; ANGER; FEAR; HE PUSHES THOSE AND WHEN YOUR NEEDS ARE NOT MET OR YOUR PERCEIVED NEEDS ARE NOT MET, UP COMES THE STUFF, UP COMES THE EXCUSES AND YOU START RUNNING TOWARD ESCAPES. SOMETHING TO MEET MY NEEDS. I JUST WANT MY NEEDS MET. I JUST WANT TO BE HAPPY! UNDERSTAND, I JUST WANT TO BE HAPPY! IT'S MY TURN! LET ME TELL YOU SOMETHING. AS I HAVE DEALT WITH COUPLES THROUGH THE YEARS, AFFAIRS 99% OF THE TIME ARE NOT JUST ONES SO FULL OF LUST THEY MEANT TO DESTROY THEIR LIVES AND EVERYBODY ELSE'S. AFFAIRS HAPPEN WHEN SOMEONE THINKS WRONGLY THEY ARE MEETING THEIR NEEDS SOMEHOW. THEY THINK THEY HAVE FOUND SOMEONE TO MEET THEIR NEED THAT THE

SPOUSE IS NOT MEETING. AND THEY WILL JUSTIFY IT WRONGLY. WRONGLY, THEY WILL JUSTIFY IT.

BOY, I AM REALLY FIGHTING THE CROWD TODAY.

HERE'S OUR PROBLEM. WE ALL HAVE LEGITIMATE NEEDS, LOVE, ACCEPTANCE, SECURITY, AND SIGNIFICANCE. WE ALL HAVE THEM. AND SATAN HAS 900,000 LEGITIMATE WAYS FOR YOU TO MEET THEM. NOW GOD'S PAST IS ALWAYS THE SAME. IT IS UNIVERSAL AND UNCHANGING. HE NEVER HAS TO SCREAM AT US; HE WHISPERS IN THAT VOICE AND SAYS THIS WAS THE TRUTH 2000 YEARS AGO AND IT IS THE TRUTH TODAY. I DON'T HAVE TO PANIC BECAUSE NOTHING CHANGES. BUT SATAN SAYS PICK A CARD, ANY CARD. IF YOU DIDN'T LIKE THE LAST ONE I GAVE YOU, I'VE GOT A MILLION OF THEM. AND I'VE GOT A WAY FOR YOU THAT YOU'RE GOING TO THINK WORKS. HERE'S THE PROBLEM. IT'S TRYING TO MEET LEGITIMATE NEEDS. SO THAT'S WHY IT'S SO POWERFUL. THAT'S WHY IT'S SO SEDUCTIVE. THAT'S WHY YOU GET SO CAUGHT UP IN IT.

ROBIN'S DAD GIVES US A GREAT ILLUSTRATION OF THIS. ROBIN'S DAD IS A WONDERFUL MAN, VERY QUIET MAN. AND IN THE LAST FEW YEARS, HE HAS JUST STARTED EATING SWEETS. HE LOVES SWEETS. HE CAN'T QUIT EATING THEM. I MEAN, PASS UP THE BURGER AND EAT THE WHOLE PIE. DO I GET A WITNESS? SOME OF YOU ARE LIKE, IS THERE A PROBLEM WITH THAT? AND THEY COULDN'T UNDERSTAND WHY. IT WAS SWEETS, SWEETS, SWEETS. WHEN HE WENT TO THE DOCTOR, WHAT THEY FOUND OUT IS HE WAS DEVELOPING DIABETES. AND HIS BODY WAS CRAVING SWEETS. IN AN ATTEMPT TO MEET WHAT HIS BODY WAS SAYING WAS A NEED, IT WAS DOING IT ILLEGITIMATELY.

SEE THAT'S HOW IT WORKS. SUBCONSCIOUSLY, YOU KNOW THAT SOMETHING IS WRONG. SUBCONSCIOUSLY, YOU KNOW THAT THERE IS A NEED. SUBCONSCIOUSLY, YOU FILL THE VOID AND YOU WANT IT MET NOW! LOVE IS PATIENT. BOY, I'D LIKE TO TAKE THAT OUT. SO YOU NOT ONLY HAVE TO BE PATIENT WITH YOUR SPOUSE, YOU HAVE TO BE PATIENT WITH GOD. IT'S A LOVE RELATIONSHIP. LOVE IS PATIENT; LOVE IS KIND; LOVE IS GENTLE. IF GOD IS GOING TO MEET IT, HE'S GOING TO DO IT HIS WAY. HERE'S OUR PROBLEM. OUR CULTURE HAS BEEN DECEIVED BY TWO FUNDAMENTAL FAULTS BELIEVES. NUMBER ONE, THAT BECAUSE OF OUR COUNTRY AND OUR CULTURES, WE SHOULD HAVE UNLIMITED SUPPLY. I SHOULD NEVER FEEL HUNGRY. I SHOULD HAVE UNLIMITED HEALTH, UNLIMITED WEALTH, AND UNLIMITED HAPPINESS. I SHOULD BE ABLE TO GO TO WAL-MART AT ANY TIME AND BY WHAT I NEED. I SHOULD BE ABLE TO GO TO THE GROCERY STORE AT ANY MOMENT AND BY WHAT I NEED. I SHOULD BE ABLE TO COME TO MY SPOUSE AT ANY MOMENT AND HE OR SHE GIVE ME WHAT I NEED. I SHOULD NEVER FEEL PAIN; I SHOULD NEVER FEEL LACK; I SHOULD ALWAYS FEEL SUPPLIED. IT SHOULD ALWAYS BE THERE. SATAN PUSHES IT TO THAT. HERE'S THE PROBLEM. NOW LISTEN, GET A HOLD OF THIS CONCEPT. IT IS A FALSE STATE PROPPED UP BY FALSE GODS; RUNNING AFTER YOUR QUICK FIXES AND YOUR MAN-MADE SOLUTIONS; FINDING IT ON THE INTERNET; THROUGH EBAY; THROUGH TELEVISION; THROUGH THE GYM; THROUGH SPORTS; THROUGH FOOD. THEY DON'T WORK AND HERE'S THE PROBLEM. WITH EVERY FALSE GOD YOU TAP INTO, WITH EVERY ONE OF THEM THAT YOU TAKE, EVERY ESCAPE YOU TRIED TO TAKE HOLD OF, IT CREATES AN UNENDING CYCLE OF MORE ESCAPES AND MORE

THINGS AND THAT UNQUENCHABLE DESIRE THAT YOU HAVE IN YOUR LIFE, THAT UNMET EXPECTATION IS ONLY REVEALING TO YOU THE INADEQUACY OF A FALSE GOD YOU HAVE TAPPED ONTO. AND IT'S NOT GOING TO SATISFY. AND THAT'S WHAT HAPPENED IN THE GARDEN. HERE WAS THE FUNDAMENTAL LIE. EAT THIS AND YOU WON'T NEED GOD. BY THIS AND YOU WON'T NEED GOD. OH, YOU DON'T HAVE TO HAVE A PROBLEM WITH GOD; YOU CAN GO TO CHURCH ON SUNDAY AND WORSHIP HIM. YOU CAN GO TO CHURCH AND TELL HIM HOW WONDERFUL HE IS. BUT WHEN MONDAY COMES, I DON'T WANT TO NEED GOD. I WANT TO BE ABLE TO GO TO THE BANK AND PULL OUT A WITHDRAWAL. I WANT TO BE ABLE TO GO TO MY WIFE AND KNOW THAT SHE WILL MEET EVERY NEED; MY HUSBAND WILL MEET EVERY NEED; I WILL CONSTANTLY HAVE A JOB; I WILL CONSTANTLY BE HEALTHY; I DON'T WANT TO NEED GOD, I JUST WANT TO BE A BUDDY WITH GOD. ISN'T THAT WHAT HE OFFERED THEM? YOU EAT THIS AND YOU SHALL BE AS GOD. YOU AND GOD CAN BE PALS BUT YOU WON'T HAVE TO NEED HIM ANYMORE. AND WE HAVE FOLLOWED IT LOOK LINE AND SINKER. NOW LISTEN TO ME. THIS ISSUE OF WHAT WE'RE DEALING WITH IN OUR NATION, AND IT'S COME CRASHING DOWN, IS AN ABNORMAL STATE. GOD NEVER MADE FOR US TO LIVE AT THE PACE OF LIFE WE LIVE THAT. HE NEVER MEANT FOR US TO LIVE WITH THIS CONSTANT IDEA THAT ANYTHING I WANT, I CAN HAVE. HE NEVER MEANT FOR THAT. IT IS A FALSE STATE PROPPED UP BY FALSE GODS. IT IS DANGEROUS BECAUSE IT CREATES INDEPENDENCE FROM GOD AND A DEPENDENCE ON WHATEVER YOU THOUGHT BROUGHT IT. THE NORMAL STATE -- WRITE THIS DOWN -- IS NEED. AND IT DRIVES YOU TO DEPENDENCE ON GOD WHICH IS HOW YOU WERE MADE TO FUNCTION. GOD'S

ULTIMATE DESIGN IS NOT TO GIVE YOU UNLIMITED AMOUNTS OF STUFF BUT TO TEACH YOU TO PRAY EVERY DAY, GOD GIVE ME THIS DAILY BREAD.

HERE'S THE SECOND FALSE CONCEPT. ANYTHING I WANT IS A NEED. OKAY, OKAY JAMES. I HEAR WHAT YOU'RE SAYING; I AGREE WITH YOU. GOD MADE US WITH NEED AND HE'S SUPPOSED TO BE SUPPLYING, I AGREE WITH THAT. I SEE MY DEPENDENCE OR WHY HASN'T HE DEALT WITH THIS? WHY HASN'T GOD GIVEN ME THIS? WHY HASN'T GOD CHANGED MY WIFE? SHE KNOWS WHAT I NEED. WHY HASN'T GOD CHANGED HIM? WHY HASN'T GOD DEALT WITH MY PROBLEM? WHY HASN'T HE DONE THIS? LISTEN TO ME. GOD IS NOT OBLIGATED TO DEAL WITH WANTS THAT YOU HAVE CREATED OUT OF REBELLION. HE IS NOT OBLIGATED TO DEAL WITH WANTS THAT YOU HAVE CREATED OUT OF A DESIRE TO CONSUME IT UPON YOURSELVES. WHERE'D YOU GET THAT FROM? TURN TO JAMES CHAPTER 4. I DON'T THINK IT'S GOING TO COME UP ON THE SCREEN SO I JUST WANT YOU TO TURN THERE. NOW WHAT I'M TALKING ABOUT RIGHT NOW, I REALLY WANT YOU TO GET A HOLD OF BECAUSE WHEN WE START DEALING WITH THE WHOLE ISSUE OF FINANCES, WE'RE GOING TO COME BACK TO IT AGAIN. OKAY, I CAN'T BUY THE CAR, I DON'T HAVE ENOUGH MONEY TO BUY THE CAR BUT RIVERSIDE HAS THE MONEY. AND RIVERSIDE WILL HELP ME BY MY CAR. YES AND THEY WILL OWN YOUR CAR UNTIL YOU MAKE YOUR LAST PAYMENT. AND IF YOU DON'T MAKE YOUR PAYMENT, GUESS WHAT? THEY WILL COME GET THEIR CAR. I HATE IT WHEN THAT HAPPENS. FALSE GOD. LISTEN TO WHAT JAMES SAID, VERSE 2. YOU LOST AND DO NOT HAVE; YOU MURDER AND COVET AND CANNOT OBTAIN; YOU FIGHT AND WAR BUT YOU DO NOT HAVE BECAUSE YOU DO NOT ASK. OKAY

THEN, I'LL ASK. WAIT A MINUTE. YOU ASK BUT YOU DO NOT RECEIVE BECAUSE YOU ASK AMISS WITH WRONG MOTIVES THAT YOU MAY SPEND IT ON YOUR OWN PLEASURES. THAT IS INTERESTING THAT GOD DID NOT SIT DOWN WITH ADAM AND SAY ADAM; YOU'VE GOT A NEED FOR A WIFE SO TELL ME WHAT YOU NEED. GIVE ME 10 THINGS YOU'RE LOOKING FOR. I'LL JUST GO OUT AND MAKE THAT FOR YOUR RIGHT NOW. DO YOU WANT A PICKLE ON THAT? YOU WANT FRIES WITH THAT?

THAT'S NOT WHAT HE DID IS IT? BECAUSE GOD KNEW WHAT HE NEEDED. I HAVE A TENDENCY TO TELL GOD WHAT I NEED AND I WANT HIM TO GO DO IT AND I WANT HIM TO DO IT NOW AND I WANT HIM TO DO IT WITH QUALITY. I WANT THE CADILLAC, THE ROLLS. THAT'S NOT WHAT GOD DID. THERE IS THIS TENDENCY TO THINK I GET TO SET THE AGENDA. I'M GOING TO GIVE YOU A WORD THAT IS SO IMPORTANT THAT IT HAS GOT TO GET INTO OUR THINKING AND THE WORD IS SIMPLICITY.

HAVE WE GOT THAT SECOND CORINTHIANS VERSE THERE? 11:3. WOULD YOU PUT IT UP THERE? LISTEN TO THIS VERSE. SECOND CORINTHIANS, CHAPTER 11, VERSE THREE. I FEAR. PAUL SAYS I TREMBLE. THE WORD LITERALLY IF I TREMBLE. IT GIVES ME THE SHAKES WHEN I THINK ABOUT IT. I TREMBLE LEST SOMEHOW AS THE SERPENT TEMPTED EVE, DECEIVED EVE BY HIS CRAFTINESS, SO YOUR MINDS MAY BE CORRUPTED FROM THE SIMPLICITY THAT IS IN CHRIST. WHAT WE HAVE DONE IS COME UP WITH OUR OWN AGENDA AND WE HAVE COMPLICATED EVERYTHING AND THEN DEMANDED GOD TO MEET OUR COMPLICATED SYSTEM; NOT ONLY GOD BUT EVERYBODY WE ARE CONNECTED TO, WE HAVE DEMANDED THEM TO MEET OUR DEMANDS AND LET

ME TELL YOU SOMETHING ABOUT GOD. HE IS NOT GOING TO MEET DEMANDS THAT YOU COME UP WITH NO MATTER HOW MUCH YOU DEMAND OR HOW DESPERATE YOU GET. HE'S NOT GOING TO DO IT. HE LIVES SIMPLY HE SAYS AND AS YOU LEARN TO LIVE SIMPLY -- AND I CAN TELL YOU -- THIS YEAR FOR ROBIN AND I, WE REALIZED THIS IS GOING TO HAVE TO BE A YEAR OF REDUCING AND LETTING GO. I'VE GOT TOO MUCH; I WANT TOO MUCH. I EXPECT TOO MUCH; I DEMAND TOO MUCH; I DEMAND THINGS HE NEVER TOLD ME I SHOULD HAVE. I EXPECT THINGS HE NEVER TOLD ME I SHOULD EXPECT AND THEN I EXPECT HIM TO COME ACROSS. IF YOU LOOK AT ADAM AND EVE, ALL THEY HAVE, THEY ARE IN A GARDEN BUTT NAKED. GOD DIDN'T PUT CLOTHES ON THEM. HOW ODD OF GOD! HE DIDN'T GO OUT AND BUILD IN THE HOUSE, AS FAR AS WE UNDERSTAND. HE PUTS THEM IN A GARDEN; HE'S GOING TO PUT TOOLS IN THEIR HANDS; HE'S GOING TO TELL THEM TO DO A WORK AND THEY'RE GOING TO DO THINGS. THEY'RE NOT JUST GOING TO SIT IN THE GARDEN AND EAT BONBONS. WE'RE GOING TO FIND OUT THAT WORK IS GOING TO BE A PART OF IT. BUT THEY ARE TO LIVE SIMPLY. THERE'S ADAM, JUST AS SIMPLE AS YOU GET. THAT'S GOD'S DESIGN, SIMPLICITY.

ALRIGHT LET'S GET TO THAT NEXT PART. GOD REVEALS NEED. NOW HOW DOES HE MEET IT? IN WHAT WAY DOES HE NEED IT? WELL, WE SEE HERE, GOD SAYS THIS IS NEED AND HE SAYS NOW DON'T PANIC; DON'T GO OUT AND TRY TO FIX THIS YOURSELVES; LOOK TO ME FOR SUPPLY. AND IN THIS STORY RIGHT HERE, GOD SAYS HERE IS THE NEED, I HAVE CREATED, I HAVE DESIGNED FOR YOU, I ALREADY HAVE IT IN THE BOOK THIS IS HOW IT'S GOING TO WORK, A SPECIAL CREATION CALLED WOMAN, A SPECIAL CREATION THAT IS GOING TO

HELP YOU MEET THIS NEED FOR PURPOSE AND PASSION. BUT SHE IS NOT MADE JUST TO BE THERE TO MEET YOUR SEXUAL NEEDS. DO I GET A WITNESS? BOY, IT GOT QUIET.

HE DIDN'T SAY ADAM, WHAT I REALLY WANT YOU TO DO IS GO CRUISE THE BAR SCENE ARE YOU FIND THE PRETTIEST WHAT YOU CAN. I'VE GOT SOMETHING SPECIAL FOR YOU. SPECIAL CREATION. I WANT YOU TO NOTICE HOW HE BROUGHT HER. HE PUTS ADAM TO SLEEP AND THEN DOES THIS WORK. NOW HE COULD HAVE JUST FORMED HER OUT OF THE DUST OF THE GROUND BUT HE DOES THIS SYMBOLIC THING. HE LIKES TO DO CEREMONY. THAT'S LIKE THE PURPOSE OF THE WEDDING. THIS CEREMONY HE DOES, THAT FIRST WEDDING. GOD DID SOMETHING WITH EVE THAT WAS SO AMAZING. HE DID SOMETHING HE'S NEVER DONE BEFORE. HE DOES MORE THAN JUST A RING. HE TAKES A RIB OUT OF ADAM AND MAKES THIS PERSON THAT THEY ARE SUPPOSED TO BE SO ONE IN PERSON; SO ONE IN THOUGHT; SO ONE IN EVERYTHING THAT TO TALK TO ONE IS TO TALK TO THE OTHER AND SHE COMES RIGHT OUT OF HIS SIDE AND LIVES RIGHT ALONGSIDE OF HIM. AND GOD BRINGS HER AS A SPECIAL GIFT. HE SAYS THIS IS A GIFT I GAVE YOU; DON'T ABUSE IT! DON'T TAKE THIS FOR GRANTED! I BROUGHT HER TO YOU AS A GIFT. YOU COULD HAVE NEVER HAD HER WITHOUT ME. WHAT A WONDERFUL GIFT. SO HOW IS THIS SUPPOSED TO WORK? I CAN ONLY GIVE YOU THE FIRST PART OF IT. SHE MEETS A NEED FOR DESIGN AND PURPOSE. IF YOU'LL GO BACK TO VERSES 28 THROUGH 30 OF THAT CHAPTER -- AND I'M NOT GOING TO GO BACK THERE -- CHAPTER 1 -- HERE'S WHAT HE TELLS US. I WANT YOU TO FILL THE EARTH. I WANT YOU TO FILL THE EARTH. NOW THEY ARE GIVEN THE SAME COMMISSION,

MALE AND FEMALE HE CREATED THEM, TOTALLY EQUAL, SAME COMMISSION, SAME STEWARDSHIP. I WANT YOU TO FILL THE EARTH. NOW LET ME TELL YOU SOMETHING. IT IS VERY OBVIOUS THAT TO FILL THE EARTH, YOU CANNOT DO THAT WITH TWO MEN. ARE YOU WITH ME? YOU CANNOT FILL THE EARTH WITH TWO MEN. THE PLUMBING AIN'T RIGHT. IT'S NEVER DESIGNED THAT WAY. ROMANS ONE, IT GOES AGAINST NATURE. GOD HAD A PURPOSE. BUT IT'S NOT JUST TO HAVE A WIFE SO YOU CAN POP OUT CHILDREN. HE COULD'VE KEPT CREATING CHILDREN FROM THE GROUND. HE DOESN'T NEED ADAM & EVE TO HELP MAKE PEOPLE. DO YOU GET WHAT I'M SAYING? GOD DOES NOT NEED MEN AND WOMEN TO HELP MAKE PEOPLE. HE COULD DO THAT WITHOUT THEM. SO THERE MUST BE A PURPOSE AND THE PURPOSE WAS THIS: THAT THEY WOULD BUILD A SOCIETY; THAT EACH CHILD THAT WOULD COME OUT OF THAT UNION WOULD THEN PICK UP THE SAME COMMISSION, THE SAME STEWARDSHIP FROM GENERATION TO GENERATION AND THEY WOULD DO THE SAME THING THAT THEIR FATHERS AND THEIR MOTHERS WERE COMMANDED TO DO, TO GO AND FILL THE EARTH AND RULE OVER IT. NOT JUST LET IT HAPPEN; NOT BE ACCIDENTAL; NOT TRY TO HUNT AROUND IN THE DARK FOR A PURPOSE; I'LL TELL YOU HOW TO DO IT. WE DO COME WITH DIRECTIONS.

I READ A SIGN NOT TOO LONG AGO ON A BILLBOARD THAT SHOWED A CHILD AND SAID "TOO BAD THEY DON'T COME WITH DIRECTIONS". I'M SORRY, THEY DO! WE DID COME WITH DIRECTIONS AND THEY CAME FROM THE VERY FIRST AND THEY WERE SUPPOSED TO BE SO UNITED, BODY, SOUL, AND SPIRIT THAT WE WOULD CREATE A CULTURE THAT WAS IN TOTAL COMMUNION WITH GOD; TOTALLY SUBMITTED TO GOD. WELL WE KNOW, THEY FAILED

ABOMINABLY. BUT THAT DOES NOT DATE THE DESIGN. JUST BECAUSE ADAM AND EVE FAILED, DOES NOT NEGATE THE ORIGINAL AND INTENTIONAL PURPOSE.

GO TO EPHESIANS CHAPTER 5 AND I'LL HAVE TO STOP. EPHESIANS 5:21, LOOK AT IT. NOW PLEASE GET A HOLD OF THIS. YOU MAY BE SAYING WOW I CAME TO THIS THING ON MARRIAGE AND I JUST THOUGHT YOU WERE GOING TO TELL US HOW TO COMMUNICATE. IF YOU DON'T KNOW WHY YOU'RE COMMUNICATING FOR, THEN WHAT GOOD IS THAT GOING TO DO? I'M JUST GOING TO TELL YOU HOW TO BE MORE NEEDY AND DEMAND OR; MAKE YOU MORE PROFICIENT AT IT. THAT'S NOT WHAT WE'RE DOING HERE. LOOK AT WHAT HE SAYS; LOOK AT VERSE 21 OF CHAPTER 5. YOU'VE GOT TO GET A HOLD OF THIS. SUBMITTING TO ONE ANOTHER IN THE FEAR OF GOD. DO YOU KNOW THAT I AM EVERY BIT AS SUBMITTED TO ROBIN AS SHE IS TO ME? THAT I AM MUTUALLY ACCOUNTABLE TO HER, TO LIVE UNDER GOD'S DESIGN AND SHE CAN HOLD ME ACCOUNTABLE TO IT. I DON'T GET TO SAY, I'M THE RULER OF THIS HOME. SORRY. THE BOSS IS ALREADY SETTLED AND IT AIN'T ME. IT'S JESUS. AND I HAVE TO COME UNDER GOD'S DESIGN. LISTEN, I AM MUTUALLY ACCOUNTABLE TO GOD UNDER THE FEAR OF GOD. WHY THE FEAR OF GOD? LISTEN TO ME. THE BOSS HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED; IT IS GOD. AND IF YOU DECIDE -- PROVERBS TELLS US THE FEAR OF GOD IS THE BEGINNING OF WISDOM. IF YOU DECIDE TO LIVE OUTSIDE GOD'S DESIGN, YOU WILL REAP DEATH. THE WAGES OF SIN IS DEATH. IF YOU TRY TO LIVE OUTSIDE OF GOD'S DESIGN FOR YOUR MARRIAGE, YOU WILL REAP BROKEN RELATIONSHIPS, AND DAMAGED LIVES EVERY TIME. AND JUST BECAUSE YOU THINK YOU'RE SMART

OR WHATEVER, IT WILL STILL HAPPEN TO YOU. IF YOU THINK YOU CAN LIVE OUTSIDE OF GOD'S DESIGN; IF YOU THINK YOU CAN FLAUNT IT AND YOU THINK IT DOESN'T NEED TO DO IT, LET ME TELL YOU WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN. YOU MAY NOT GET DIVORCED BUT EVERY YEAR YOU WILL SUCK THE LIFE OUT OF EACH OTHER UNTIL THERE IS NOTHING LEFT. AND I THINK COUPLE AFTER COUPLE AFTER COUPLE THAT STAYED TOGETHER BUT THERE'S NOTHING LEFT. AND NOW THEY QUIT BEING LOVE AND LOVER AND BECAME MAMA AND DADDY. OR HEY YOU OR THE OLD WOMAN OR THE OLD MAN. I GOT NEWS FOR YOU. I DIDN'T MARRY MY MAMA. I GOT A MAMA. I DON'T NEED ANOTHER ONE. ROBIN DIDN'T MARRY HER DADDY. SHE HAS A DADDY. SHE DOESN'T NEED ANOTHER ONE. SHE WANTED A LOVER OF HER SOUL. THAT'S WHAT YOU WERE DESIGNED TO BE. UNDER THE FEAR OF GOD.

WHAT WAS THE NEXT ONE? LISTEN TO WHAT IT SAYS. WIVES SUBMIT TO YOUR OWN HUSBANDS. VERSE 25 HUSBANDS LOVE YOUR WIVES. DISTINCT ROLES. I DON'T HAVE TIME TO GET INTO ALL OF THAT BUT DISTINCT ROLES. LET ME JUST SAY THIS. YOU HAVE A DISTINCT ROLE TO FILL. IF YOU DON'T FILL THAT ROLE -- HUSBANDS LISTEN, IF YOU DON'T FILL THAT ROLE, YOUR WIFE WILL TRY TO FILL IT. WIFE, IF YOU DON'T FILL THAT ROLE, YOUR HUSBAND WILL TRY TO FILL IT AND HE WILL DO A TERRIBLE JOB. IF YOU TRY TO FILL HIS JOB LADIES, YOU'LL DO A TERRIBLE JOB. OR YOU MAY THINK YOU'RE DOING A GREAT JOB BUT YOU ARE SURE RESENTING THE FACT THAT YOU HAD TO DO IT. AND THIS IS THE WAY IT WORKS. IN THE WORLD SYSTEM, THE WORLD SYSTEM SAYS WHO'S THE BOSS? THE WORLD SYSTEM WORKS LIKE THIS. I LOVE ME AND I'LL USE YOU. I AM THE BOSS. I LOVE ME. SO I WILL USE YOU TO GET WHAT I

NEED OUT OF LIFE. AND AS LONG AS I CAN USE YOU AND YOU WON'T MIND ME USING YOU, AND YOU'LL BE PART OF ME USING YOU, THEN WE'LL HAVE A GREAT RELATIONSHIP. GOD'S SYSTEM WORKS LIKE THIS. THE BOSS HAS BEEN SETTLED. SO THE QUESTION IS WHERE DO I SERVE? HOW DO I SERVE? GOD'S SYSTEM WORKS LIKE THIS. I LOVE GOD. GOD USE ME. I LOVE YOU GOD. USE ME IN THEIR LIVES. GOD I LOVE YOU AND BECAUSE YOU LOVE ROBIN, YOU WILL TEACH ME TO LOVE HER. I THOUGHT I LOVED HER 29 YEARS AGO. DOES NOT COMPARE. IF I THOUGHT I COULD LOVE HER 29 YEARS AGO LIKE I LOVE HER NOW, I WOULD NEVER HAVE IMAGINED. OH IT'S NOT A SENSUAL THING AS MUCH ANYMORE. WE DON'T CHASE EACH OTHER FROM ROOM TO ROOM AS MUCH AS WE USED TO EXCEPT MAYBE WITH A BROOM HANDLE! BUT I KNOW HER MIND NOW AS MUCH AS I CAN AND SHE FASCINATES ME. SHE FASCINATES ME AT WHAT I FIND AT THE DEPTH OF HER SPIRIT. SHE FASCINATES ME AT WHAT I FIND AT THE DEPTH OF HER SOUL. SHE FASCINATES ME AS WE TURN OLDER AND OUR BODIES -- GRAVITY IS AN AWFUL THING, ISN'T IT? BUT EVEN AS WE TURN OLDER IN OUR BODIES, THERE'S SOMETHING ABOUT JUST THE TOUCH THAT YEARS AGO HAD TO TURN INTO SOMETHING ELSE AND NOW IT CAN JUST BE A TOUCH. IT'S JUST AS POWERFUL. AND I LEARNED LONG AGO AS TIME WENT ON THAT MEN, YOU CAN MAKE LOVE TO THE PERSON, NOT JUST TO THE BODY. IT'S A WONDERFUL THING. GOD MADE THAT WIFE OF YOURS, THAT HUSBAND OF YOURS TO FULFILL A PURPOSE BUT ALSO TO FULFILL A PASSION. GOD CREATED YOU WITH TWO THINGS AND I'LL TALK ABOUT THIS NEXT WEEK AND I'M GOING TO LEAVE IT WITH YOU. HE CREATED YOU WITH TWO GREAT DESIRES AT THE DEPTHS OF YOUR SOUL, ECSTASY AND INTIMACY. HE MADE

YOU TO LIVE IN A LOVE RELATIONSHIP OF SPIRIT SOUL AND BODY THAT WOULD GROW TO THE POINT OF ONENESS AND ONE FLESH. HE MADE YOU TO LIVE IN A LOVE RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD BUT IN ORDER TO UNDERSTAND THAT LOVE RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD AND YOU WOULD WALK WITH HIM, HE WOULD GIVE YOU A SPOUSE. NOW NOT EVERYONE, SOME PEOPLE HE CALLS TO SINGLENESS BUT WE'RE TALKING ABOUT THOSE IN A MARRIAGE RELATIONSHIP AND HE CALLS THEM IN THAT LOVE RELATIONSHIP TO ONE LOVE THAT IS UNCONSTRAINED AND UNCONDITIONAL. A LOVE RELATIONSHIP WITH THAT SPOUSE WHERE I AM LOVED AND ADORED EXTRAVAGANTLY, LAVISHLY. I AM LOVED BY HER AND SHE BY ME IN SUCH A WAY THAT IT BRINGS A THRILL TO THE DEPTH OF MY SOUL, TO BE LOVED, TO BE KNOWN SO UNCONDITIONALLY AND FULLY, BODY, SOUL, SPIRIT, EVERY WART, EVERY PROBLEM, INNER, OUTWARD, THAT I AM LOVED AND STILL LOVED AND WILL NEVER BE REJECTED. THAT'S HOW GOD MADE YOU. I WILL LOOK AT THAT MORE NEXT WEEK. GOD GAVE YOU THAT SPOUSE FOR A UNIQUE THING, TO FULFILL PURPOSE AND PASSION. DON'T ABUSE IT. SOMETIMES, YOU ONLY GET ONE CHANCE.

SOME OF YOU ARE IN YOUR SECOND MARRIAGE. SOME OF YOU ARE IN YOUR THIRD OR MORE. YOU CAN'T GO BACK BUT YOU CAN GO FORWARD. YOU CAN'T GO BACK TO CAN'T GO FIX WHAT WAS WRONG BUT YOU CAN GO FORWARD. AND YOU CAN DECIDE RIGHT NOW, RIGHT HERE, AS MIKE SAID SOME YEARS AGO, MIKE GEHRING SAID WE CAN STAKE OUR CLAIM! WE WILL MAKE THIS WORK. WE WILL FIND THE DESIGN COMMISSION POINT WE WILL FIND THE PATTERN AND BY GOD'S GRACE, I WILL LEARN TO LOVE

UNCONSTRAINED AND UNCONDITIONAL. AND IN THE PROCESS, I'LL DISCOVER WHAT IT MEANS TO LOVE GOD IT'S AN IMPORTANT THING. SO THIS IS MY QUESTION TO YOU. WHAT NEEDS HAVE BEEN RISING TO THE SURFACE LATELY THAT YOU HAVE BEEN DEMANDING YOUR SPOUSE TO MEET AND THEY COULDN'T AND NOW YOU ARE ANGRY? WHAT NEEDS HAVE BEEN RISING TO THE SURFACE LATELY THAT YOU WERE DEMANDING YOUR CAREER TO MEET AND IT COULDN'T? WHAT NEEDS HAVE BEEN RISING TO THE SURFACE LATELY THAT YOU WERE DEMANDING THAT YOUR BODY MEET AND IT CAN'T ANYMORE AND AS IT GETS OLDER, IT FALLS AND YOU'RE MAD AT GOD, YOU'RE BLAMING YOUR WIFE, YOU'RE BLAMING YOUR HUSBAND; YOU'RE TOTALLY MISERABLE AND YOU'VE BEEN BLAMING EVERYONE AND THAT MISERY IN YOUR LIFE AND YOU'VE BEEN BLAMING EVERYONE IS SIMPLY GOD SAYING YOU WANT AN ESCAPE? THAT MISERY YOU'RE FEELING THAT YOU BLAMED ON YOUR WIFE AND YOU BLAMED ON YOUR HUSBAND IS SIMPLY GOD SAYING YOU FEEL THAT? THAT'S MY SPIRIT GRIEVING FOR YOU. THAT MISERY YOU FEEL IS THE HOLY SPIRIT SO GRIEVING FOR YOU AND THE MISERY AT THE CORE OF YOUR LIFE IS NOT YOU PUT A NAME TO IT BUT IT'S SIMPLY GOD SAYING AND IT WILL REMAIN THERE UNTIL YOU QUIT FIGHTING IT. YOU CAN KEEP RUNNING. I'VE CREATED SO MANY SIDETRACKS, MY LIFE LOOKS LIKE THIS. I'M LIKE JONAH. I'VE BEEN IN THE WHALES BELLY SO MANY TIMES I CAN TELL YOU WHAT THE LINING LOOKS LIKE. AND I KEEP SAYING, COME ON BACK. AND WHAT YOU WILL FIND WITH ME IS NOT LESS PROBLEMS, BUT A SOURCE OF STRENGTH IN THE MIDST OF THEM THAT SAYS SO I PERISH, THOUGH HE SLAY ME, YET I WILL TRUST HIM.

SOME OF YOU NEED TO TAKE IN SPOUSE BY THE HAND AND SAY LISTEN I HAVE EXPECTED AND DEMANDED TOO MUCH. I HAVE COMMANDED YOU TO MEET NEEDS THAT ONLY GOD CAN DO AND I HAVE TO STOP. YOU SAY WELL THAT'S MY WIFE'S PROBLEM. MAKE IT YOUR PROBLEM. BECAUSE LISTEN TO ME. IF MY SPOUSE HAS A PROBLEM, I HAVE A PROBLEM. MAYBE IT'S TIME TO GET ON YOUR KNEES WITH GOD'S SAKE GOD, GO TO THE ROOT OF MY PROBLEM.

(prayer)