

God's Design for Marriage

Week 12



Course Review – Weeks 1 & 2

- Man & Woman created
 - Adam – Caretaker, working, providing; but not good to be alone.
 - Eve – Helper for Adam, uniquely matched, put in front of Adam
 - Eve’s focus: family relationships
- Men – “mechanical” thinkers
- Women – “relational” thinkers

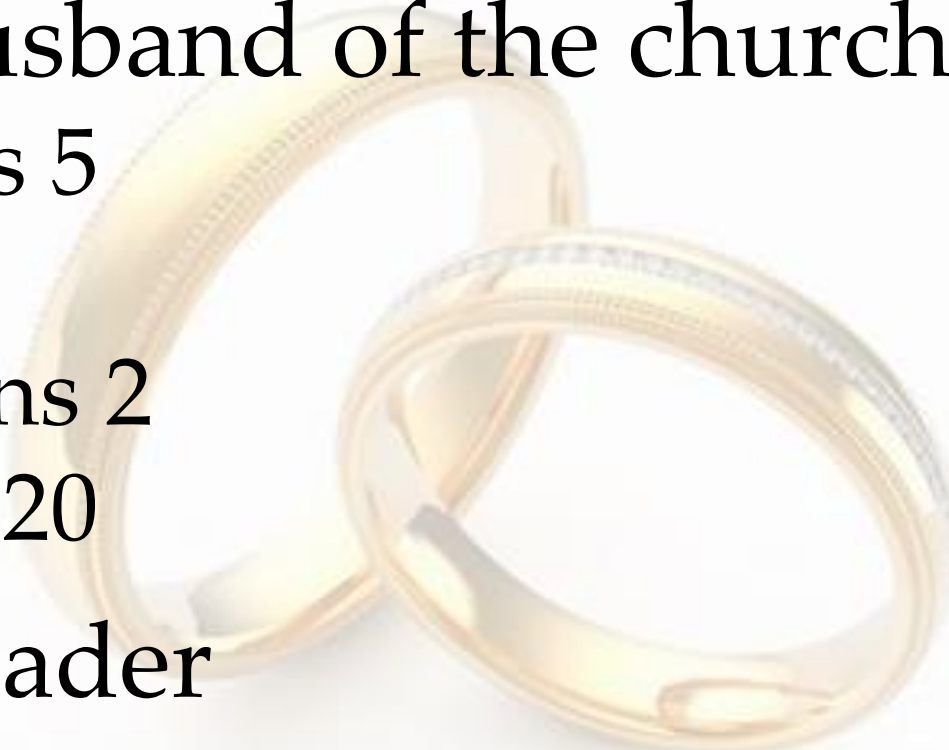
Course Review – Weeks 1 & 2

- Marriage Universalized by God
- Man given responsibility to leave & cleave
- God joins husband and wife

Weeks 3 & 4: God's Call for Husbands

- Husband responsible to establish a new household under Christ's headship.
- God as Husband of His people
 - Hosea 2
 - Jeremiah 31
 - Isaiah 54

Weeks 3 & 4: God's Call for Husbands

- Christ as husband of the church
 - Ephesians 5
 - Mark 8
 - Philippians 2
 - Matthew 20
 - Spiritual Leader
 - Ruler/Protector – Can nullify vows (Num 30)
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- Two gold wedding rings are positioned in the center of the slide, overlapping each other. The rings are simple, plain bands with a polished finish. The background is a light, neutral color, making the rings stand out.

Weeks 3 & 4: God's Call for Husbands

Hebrews 4:14 – 5:4	
JESUS	HUSBANDS
Is able to sympathize with our weaknesses	Do I understand her weaknesses, let alone sympathize with them?
Was tempted in all things as we are (no sin)	In what ways is my wife tempted?
Is approachable giving confidence	Can my wife approach me about anything and feel confident I will receive her, even when it is not convenient for me?
Gives mercy and grace in our time of need	Do my words and actions convey mercy and grace when she is needy?

Weeks 5 & 6: God's Call for Wives

- Helper Suitable & Desire for Husband's affirmation
- 1 Cor 11 – Headship and Glory
 - Proper headship reveals the glory of the source of its authority
 - Christ the head of all men
 - Husband the head of wife
- Husband's headship should show the characteristics of Christ

Weeks 5 & 6: God's Call for Wives

- Wife is the glory of the husband
 - Shows the characteristics of her head, husband
- Wife provides a reflection so that a husband may see how well his glory reflects Jesus
 - So that he can learn 1 Peter 3:7.
- Submission & authority are 2 sides of same coin

Weeks 5 & 6: God's Call for Wives

- Mt. 8 – Centurion is a good example of submission because he understood it.
- Agree to see your husband as the leader under Christ's leadership
- Agree to be your husband's follower under Christ's leadership

Weeks 7 & 8: The Human Heart/Spirit

- The core of our inner selves, thoughts & feelings
- Sinful thoughts and actions that defile come from the heart
- We must put off the old self, be renewed in the spirit of our minds, and put on the new self. (Eph 4:22-24)

Weeks 7 & 8: The Human Heart/Spirit

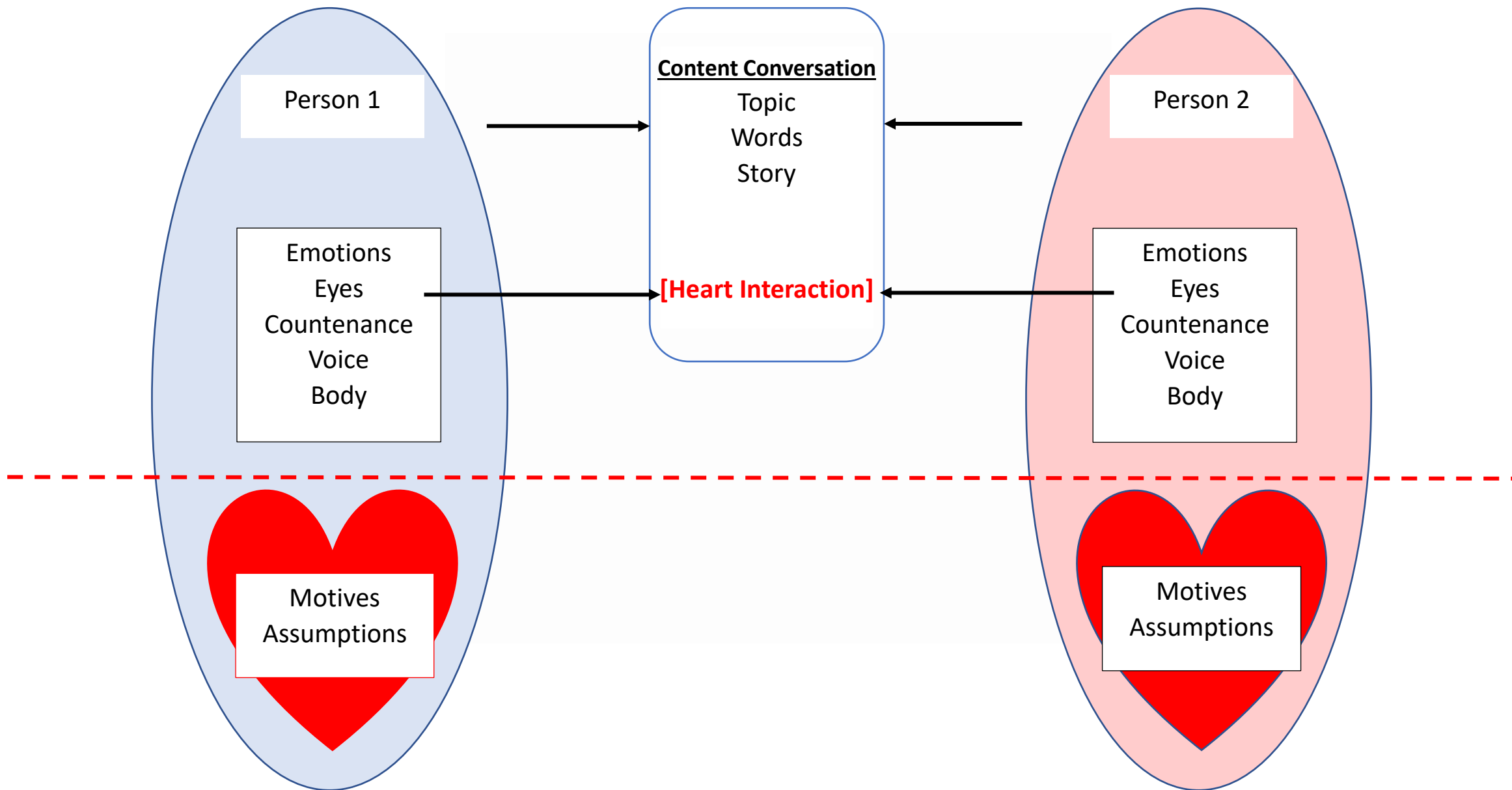
- Husband-wife closeness develops “spiritual intimacy”
- Recognizing another’s spirit through 5 indicators
 - Eyes
 - Countenance
 - Patterns of interactions
 - Assumptions
 - Motivations

Scriptural Descriptions of the Heart/Spirit

Worry	Grieved
Sorrow	Broken
Contrite	Anxiety
Sick	Tree of Life
Bitterness	Laughter
Pain	Joy
Tranquil	Crushed
Joyful	Sad
Haughty	Gladden
Anger	Wise
Proud	Rages
Humble	Troubled

Weeks 7 & 8: The Human Heart Indicators

- Discerning the heart of your spouse at any given time
- Sorting out where each person is coming from
- Leads to follow to discover where we operate in the flesh
- Easier to find the Heart Problem God wants us to repent from.



Reaching a Heart Understanding

- Call Timeout
- Verbalize Heart Indicators on both sides for understanding
- Reach a mutual understanding of what was creating tension in the relationship.
 - (should ease some tension)
- NOW WHAT?

Finding the Heart Issue – Both H and W

- This will be what God wants you to work on
- For starters, confession of a bad attitude, hurtful words, etc. ASAP
- Examples of questions to prayerfully ask together and alone, to learn what your heart issue is.

Examples of Questions to Prayerfully Ask Together and Alone

- Was I reacting in the flesh, and if so, why?
- What does my reaction (i.e., my emotions and thoughts) tell me about my assumptions?
- What does my reaction (i.e., my emotions and thoughts) tell me about my motivation?
- **If not Jesus, what is on the throne of my heart?**