

STUDENT HANDOUT — Seminar 5, Session 5

Keeping the Foxes from Spoiling the Vines

SCRIPTURE: I Cor. 10:1-18; Proverbs 4:20-27; Song of Solomon 2:15

INTRODUCTION

1. Why is this session so important? Because marriages are wonderful and made by God for us to journey life together.

Another reason is because we are losing too many marriages to Satan.

2. A definition of an affair: is any relationship, sexual or otherwise, that takes positive energy away from your marriage. (John Maxwell)

Steps to Take to Keep Wrong Affairs Out of Your Marriage:

I. We must know and understand the prime times when we can be vulnerable to _____.

1. When you first get married and you begin to pour your energy into building your careers.

2. When a baby is born and the wife pours her energy into the baby.

3. When we begin to transition age wise.

Women 30 - 40 years. They think they are becoming unattractive.

Men 40 - 50 years. Mid-life crisis time.

4. When you move to a new location and everything seems to be in an upheaval.

5. When you find yourself searching for intimacy.

II. We Must Not _____ Our Marriages With Others.

III. We Must Not Set Our Own _____.

1. Choose your _____ carefully.

2. Friends need to have same _____ values.

3. Be careful not to become too _____ with friends.

4. Be alert to family _____.
5. Look out for _____ dissatisfaction.
6. _____ separation can be very destructive.
7. Be careful what you _____, _____, and _____.
8. Be careful about _____ at work.

9. Be aware if there is a spiritual decline concerning our _____ relationship with God.

IV. We Must See Through The _____ Of Our Mates.

1. We must be _____ to each others needs.
2. We must _____ regularly.
3. We must understand that our wives _____ heart to heart talks.

V. We Must Be The _____ of Our Relationship and Not the _____.

What are some of the things a host does?

1. They _____ the relationship.
2. They _____ the evening activities.
3. They seek to _____ the needs of the guest.
4. They make sure the temperature is _____.

VI. We Must Be Willing to _____ Everything in Our Relationship.

1. According to God's Word we are one in marriage.
2. Share the authority, don't lord it over each other.
3. Sharing power and control, and responsibility with each other will bring great intimacy in the marriage.
4. If one is dominant over the other then intimacy is literally destroyed.
5. To really be close there must be a sharing of goals and ideas together.

6. It must be a life of holding hands together, not some tag along game.

VII. We Must be Willing to Ask Ourselves Some Very Hard _____ at Times.

1. Do I make continual excuses to visit someone of the opposite sex?

2. In a working or social relationship how am I handling daily contact with that person?

3. Do I find myself preoccupied with the thoughts of another person?

4. Do I exchange a card or gift with a person of the opposite sex and why since this type of contact might indicate a growing intimacy?

5. Do I use the telephone as an important medium in my relationship to someone outside of my marriage?

6. Do I allow myself to be in situations that could allow me to meet someone that could become more than a friend?

7. What does my body language communicate to other people?

VIII. We Must Concentrate On _____ Our Vines at Home.

Start an affair at home with your own mate!

1. You must _____ your mate.

2. You must add _____ to your marriage.

3. You must _____ a lot.

4. You must do the _____.

5. You must give _____ to your mate.

6. You must share _____.

7. You must be _____ friends.

8. You must be a _____ again.

CONCLUSION

Dr. Howard Hendricks said, "Satan will lie in the weeds for 40 years to entrap one of God's servants. He is patient. He will wait and he will watch for just the right moment. A moment that will do greater damage to the kingdom of God."

WHAT IS OUR DEFENSE?

2. Intimacy with God.
3. Right relationships with our companions.
4. Proper physical rest and care for our bodies.
5. Proper accountability with someone.
6. A meaningful purpose in life.
7. Possessing a true attitude of joy and thanksgiving in serving God.
8. A watchful spirit – remember what Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior did for us when He was hanging there on that cross shedding His precious blood for all mankind. He had your name inscribed on His heart.

Then when I think of that sacrifice He paid for me and that unconditional love He shows to me, when He says flee to me, I WANT TO RUN AS FAST AS I CAN AWAY FROM THE EVIL ONE BACK IN HIS ARMS.

For that is where my safety lies.

KEEP LOOKING OVER YOUR SHOULDERS. . .GET READY TO RUN!