

Cultivating Connections

Marriage Conference 2021

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Flourishing While Serving

Objectives

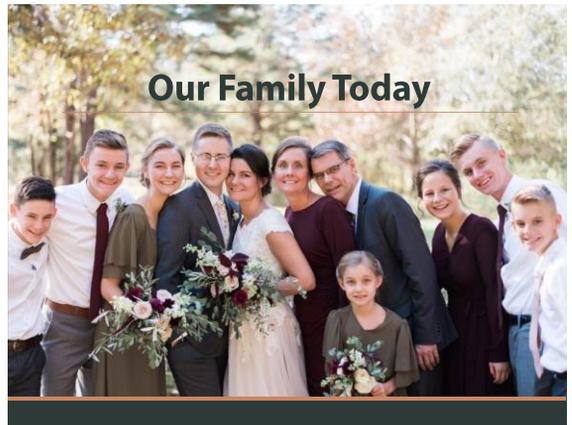
- Understand Biblical Foundations for Flourishing, Serving, and Marriage
- Identify 4 Areas of Service
- Share Practical Advice from our Journey

The Knapp's

Our Journey



Our Family Today



Biblical Foundations

FLOURISHING,
SERVING,
MARRIAGE

Flourishing

- To thrive.
- To grow luxuriantly.
- To increase and enlarge, as a healthy growing plant.



Flourishing

God's Design for Flourishing

John 10:10 The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more **abundantly**.

2 Corinthians 9:8 And God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may **abound** to every good work:

We flourish through Christ.

Serving

- Act in Subordination to
- Performing our duties

Serving



God's Command for Serving

Matthew 20:25-28 But Jesus called them unto him, and said, Ye know that the princes of the Gentiles exercise dominion over them, and they that are great exercise authority upon them. **26** But it shall not be so among you: but whosoever will be great among you, let him be your **minister**; **27** And whosoever will be chief among you, let him be your **servant**: **28** Even as the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to **minister**, and to give his life a ransom for many.

Philippians 2:7 But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a **servant**, and was made in the likeness of men:

Serving Exemplifies Christ

John 13:17 If ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them.

Marriage

Genesis 1:31 And God saw every thing that he had made, and, behold, it was **very good**. And the evening and the morning were the sixth day.

Genesis 2:24 Therefore shall a man **leave** his father and his mother, and shall **cleave** unto his wife: and they shall be **one flesh**.

Ephesians 5:32 This is a great mystery: but I speak concerning **Christ and the church**.



Flourishing While Serving in Marriage

- Flourishing – happens through Christ.
- Serving – Exemplifies Christ.
- Marriage – Designed to reflect Christ.

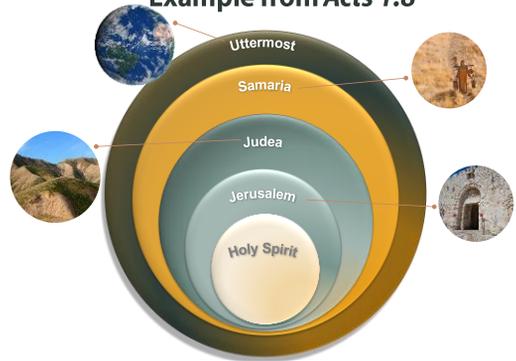
God Desires for His people to Flourish while serving in marriage.

4 Areas of Service

4 Areas of Service

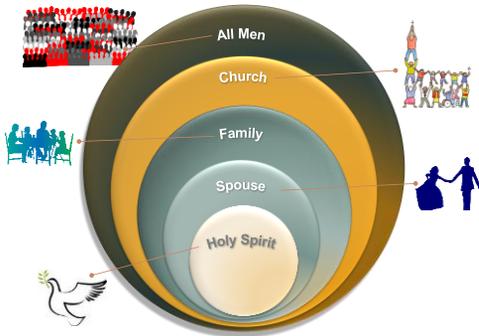
- Spouse
- Children
- Church
- All men

Example from Acts 1:8



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Our Areas of Service



Summary of Areas of Service

- We are commanded to serve in all areas.
- Our relationship with Christ is central to our service.
- We need to be aware of the tensions of serving priority areas without neglecting other areas.

Practical Advice



Giftings

- Know your spouse's giftings.
- Encourage use of giftings.
- Support spouse in giftings being used.



Encouragement

- Kind Words
- Be Honest
- Avoid Lecturing
- Listen



Intentionality

- Remember your spouse is first.
- Tell your spouse they are first.
- Show your spouse they are first.



Re-examine

- We do not "arrive".
- Circumstances change.
- Commitments need to be adjusted.



Wrap-Up



Summary

1. God's Desire is that we are flourishing while serving in marriage.
2. We are commanded to serve:
 - Our spouse
 - Our Children
 - Our Church
 - All men
3. We must not neglect our priorities.
4. Practically we can:
 - Acknowledge giftings.
 - Encourage one another.
 - Be intentional with our relationship.
 - Consistently re-examine our service.



Final Story

Questions