



SERMON NOTES

Title: Secrets of a Satisfying Marriage

Text: Ephesians 1:19-20

Topic: God's Power

Teacher: Pastor Barry

Time: 7/28/24. File: Christian Living

"How tremendous is the power available to us who believe in God ... the same power demonstrated when Christ was raised from the dead." Eph. 1:19-20 (Ph)

All relationships have the same three basic stress points: 1. Unexpected **differences**. 2. Unmet **needs**. 3. Un-forgiven **mistakes**.

God wants to give you power to...

1. **UNDERSTAND YOUR DIFFERENCES**

If you're going to have a successful, satisfying marriage you have to become **a student of your spouse**.

"No one can really know what anyone else is thinking or what he is really like, except that person himself/herself." I Cor. 2:11.

Opposites attract!

Maturity is when you realize that **differences** aren't right or wrong.

The greater your differences, the greater your **potential** for growth.

The area where our differences are most problematic is in how we **think**.

What a man says tends to reflect what he **thinks**. What a woman says tends to reflect what she **feels**.

"Homes are built on the foundation of wisdom and understanding." Proverbs. 24:3

2. **FULFILL YOUR WIFE'S/HUSBAND'S NEEDS**

"The man should fulfill his duty as a husband and the woman should fulfill her duty as a wife, and each should satisfy the other's needs." I Corinthians 7:3

Husbands typically don't have a problem **telling** their wives what their needs are. Wives don't want to have to tell their husbands what their needs are.

"Look out for each other's interests, not just for your own." Philippians 2:4

The root problem in marriage is **selfishness**.

In our world today there's not enough time for all our options.

"God, who is at work within you, will give you the will and the power to achieve his purpose." Philippians 2:13

3. **FORGIVE YOUR WIFE'S/HUSBAND'S MISTAKES**

The *laws of reality*: 1. You married an **imperfect** person. 2. You're **not so hot** yourself.

Un-forgiveness kills the spirit of a marriage. *"It is better to dwell in a desert than with a quarrelsome and nagging mate." Prov. 21:19*

"Let there be no more bitter resentment or anger, no more shouting or slander, and let there be no bad feelings of any kind among you." Ephesians 4:31. (Ph)

How do you deal with hurt? *"Be gentle and ready to forgive; never hold grudges. Remember the Lord forgave you, so you must forgive others." Colossians 3:13 (LB)*

The grass is not greener on the other side of the fence. The grass is greener **where you water it**.