

CLOSE Calls

LIVING OUT GOD'S CALL IN OUR CLOSE RELATIONSHIPS

Weekend of February 9, 2013 **MARRIAGE: FULLY KNOWN, FULLY LOVED**

MESSAGE OUTLINE

"Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God."

Romans 15:7, NIV

"...RELATIONSHIPS GROW DEEP WHEN PEOPLE BECOME REAL..."

-JOHN ORTBERG, THE ME I WANT TO BE

THE TROUBLE WITH TRANSPARENCY

- Getting Real = Getting Rejected
- Believing the Lie of Pretending

ACCEPT ONE ANOTHER

- Love in Action
- The Payoff
 - Growth
 - Freedom
 - Healing
 - Joy
 - Creativity
 - Intimacy

THE JOURNEY OF GRACE

- KNOWING THE DIFFERENCE: THE PERSON & THE PROBLEM
- GOD'S PLAN FOR MY MARRIAGE IS TO BE GIVEN, GUIDED, GUARDED AND ENERGIZED BY THE GRACE OF GOD

MESSAGE BASED SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS

1. Why do you find it is hard to be transparent in a marriage relationship?
2. Do you think John Ortberg's comment "relationships grow deep when people become real" is true or false? Why?
3. Do you think people struggle with fear of rejection in their relationships? Why do you think a wedding ceremony and marriage commitment does not change this fear on its own?
4. What are some things people can do to become more transparent in their relationships?
5. When you think of the Bible's teaching on "accepting one another", how does this challenge you most? What are some things that stop people from accepting others?
6. How understanding God's acceptance of us help us to accept others—especially our spouse?
7. Since we all want to be accepted, why do you think we struggle so much with accepting others?
8. How does God's love at work in us change the way we see people, including our spouse?
9. "God's plan for my marriage is to be given, guided, guarded, and energized by the grace of God"
 - a. What does this mean and how is this different from "Living happily ever after"?
 - b. What three things you can do this week to make this a greater reality in your marriage?
 - c. What is holding you back from experiencing love, joy and giving full acceptance to your spouse?

2024

Calls



MARRIAGE



Living Out God's Call in our Close Relationships