

May 2016

From the Pastor



## 25th Wedding Anniversary

On May 11, 1991 Mindy and I became husband and wife. That means that we are celebrating our 25<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary. God has blessed us with a wonderful marriage. When Jesus was asked about divorce, He started by talking about marriage. This is what He said:

*<sup>4</sup> He answered, "Have you not read that he who created them from the beginning made them male and female,<sup>5</sup> and said, 'Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh'?<sup>6</sup> So they are no longer two but one flesh. What therefore God has joined together, let not man separate." (Matthew 19:4-6 ESV)*

As I think about our marriage, Mindy and I have included three things in our marriage to become one that I have talked about before: Time, Talk and Touch.

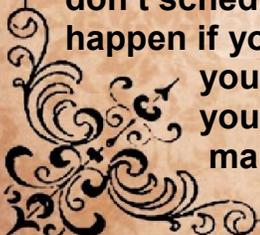
### Time

#### *With God*

First you need to spend time with God. God is the creator of marriage, and you need to be connected to Him. You need to carve out time in your day to be with God. However, there is also a need for you as a couple to spend time with God together.

#### *With Your Spouse*

This brings up the first thing that couples need to grow to be as one - time together. Many couples who I know have a "date night." One thing Mindy and I have learned about time together is that it doesn't happen if we don't schedule it. Whatever "time" it is, it won't happen if you don't plan for it; budget your time so your spouse has your priority. Take time for your marriage.



## Talk

### ***With God***

The next “T” in oneness is talk. Again, the first person you need to talk with is God. When you spend time with God, you need to talk with Him. Not only should you pray alone, you and your spouse should be praying together. Pray for each other.

### ***With Your Spouse***

It is important to talk with your spouse. The most important tool to use in a marriage is communication. It is through communication that couples become one. To grow together you have to talk with your spouse. Too many times couples expect their spouses to be mind readers. If you want your spouse to know what you are thinking, then you will have to tell your spouse what you are thinking!

## Touch

### ***With God***

The final “T” in oneness is touch. Another word for “touch” is intimacy. Is your relationship with God an intimate one? Dig deep in your relationship with God. As a couple you also need to be intimate with God. As you pray together, talk to God about the hard issues in your marriage. Talk to Him about those matters that you struggle with together. Get intimate with God together.

### ***With Your Spouse***

Marriage thrives on intimacy. There needs to be physical intimacy in marriage. Do not deprive your spouse. There is a need for physical intimacy in marriage. It is grease that keeps the friction down in marriage. Intimacy is more than just physical in a marriage. Intimacy is the tenderness in marriage. It is the romance. Intimacy is the romance in your marriage! Men, when was the last time you brought flowers home or wrote your wife a love note? Women, when was the last time your husband was greeted with a tender hug? When was the last time the two of you walked in the park together holding hands? For a couple to become one in marriage, there needs to be touch!

Time, talk and touch; all three of these are necessary in a marriage for it to reach its goal of oneness. Mindy and I have worked hard to make these three things a part of our marriage. Because of this we have had a wonderful twenty five years together. Make sure that you are taking time for all three in your marriage.

In Him and for His glory,

