



## It's Not About the Dishwasher

MBC Mar. 28, 2010 – Pastor Barry R. Mulligan

### WE LIVE IN A FALLEN WORLD.

*For we know that the whole creation groans and suffers together (under sin's curse) until now.* Romans 8:22

*But each one is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desires. Then when desire conceives, it gives birth to sin.* James 1:14-15

**Marriage is a covenant between two sinful people  
AGREEING to “become one flesh.”**

To “fireproof” our marriages, we need to grasp the truth that

**Fireproofing is not a ONE-TIME event;  
it is an ongoing activity.**

### YOU CAN'T GIVE WHAT YOU DON'T HAVE

<sup>12</sup>*So, as those who have been chosen of God, holy and beloved, put on a heart of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience;  
<sup>13</sup>bearing with one another and forgiving one another, if someone happens to have a complaint against anyone else. Just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you (must) also forgive others.* Colossians 3:12-13

<sup>10</sup>*If you forgive anyone, I also forgive him. And what I have forgiven—if there was anything to forgive—I have forgiven in the sight of Christ for your sake. <sup>11</sup>in order that Satan might not outwit us. For we are not unaware of his schemes.* 2 Corinthians 2:10-11

<sup>26</sup>*“In your anger do not sin.” Do not let the sun go down while you are still angry, <sup>27</sup>and do not give the devil a foothold.* Ephesians 4:26-27

**FORGIVENESS is an ongoing activity.**

**Forgiveness is NOT a SINGLE event.**

- it is an **EVENT** and a **PROCESS**

<sup>21</sup>*Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, “Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother when he sins against me? Up to seven times?”*

<sup>22</sup>*Jesus answered, “I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times.”* Matthew 18:21-22

**Forgiveness is NOT a FEELING**

- it is an act of the will - a **DECISION**

**Forgiveness is NOT FORGETTING**

- it is an activity that requires work & **CONTINUED** effort

**Forgiveness is NOT EXCUSING**

- forgiveness deals **HONESTLY** with sin

**Forgiveness is not necessarily FORGETTING the hurt but  
surrendering your claim to that offense - SURRENDERING  
your desire to get even with the one who hurt you.**

<sup>11</sup>*Dear friends, if God so loved us, then we also ought to love one another. <sup>12</sup>No one has seen God at any time. If we love one another, God resides in us, and his love is perfected in us.* 1 John 4:11-12

**LOVING is an ongoing activity.**

**Eros – What can I get out of this?**

- Eros loves **when**...it's easy to feel good from loving.

**Phileo – What can WE get out of this?**

- Phileo loves **because**...it is best for us (family/group).

**Agape – What can YOU get out of this?**

- Agape loves **in spite of**...what I feel or how you treat me in return.

*Husbands, in the same way, be treating, be living with your wives with consideration... and showing & assigning them honor as fellow heirs...* 1 Peter 3:7

*...do you not realize that God's kindness leads  
you toward repentance?* Romans 2:4