

# SERMON BASED STUDY GUIDE

Pastor Charlie

Building Lasting Marriages: Commitment, Communication, and Unity

### **OPENING & PRAYER:**

In today's message, we embarked on a journey to explore the essential elements that contribute to a successful and enduring marriage. We began by emphasizing the importance of a high commitment to making the relationship work. This commitment is not just a promise but a determination to persist through challenges, ensuring that the marriage remains a priority. It's about having a mindset that says, "We will make it last," regardless of external statistics or societal pressures.

"Father, thank you for the opportunity to grow deeper in my relationships. Please guide my study and direct me to grow a stronger relationship with you, and those around me. In Jesus name I pray, Amen."

## **SCRIPTURE:**

For where two or three are gathered together in My name, I am there in the midst of them." Matthew 18:20

Can two walk together, unless they are agreed? Amos 3:3

Do not be unequally yoked together with unbelievers. For what fellowship has righteousness with lawlessness? And what communion has light with darkness? 2 Corinthians 6:14

Unless the LORD builds the house, its builders labor in vain. Unless the LORD watches over the city, the watchmen stand in guard in vain. Psalms 127:1

Marriage is honorable among all, and the bed undefiled; but fornicators and adulterers God will judge. Hebrews 13:4

But he who is greatest among you shall be your servant. Matthew 23:11

#### **GO DEEPER:**

Communication emerged as a vital component, serving as the lifeblood of any marriage. Trust, which is foundational to relationships, must be nurtured through open and honest communication. We discussed the significance of understanding and speaking each other's love languages, a concept that can transform how we express and receive love. By identifying and respecting these languages, couples can bridge gaps and foster deeper connections.

Spiritual unity was highlighted as another cornerstone of a thriving marriage. Being spiritually aligned means sharing the same values, goals, and perspectives, which strengthens the bond and provides a solid foundation for raising children. We explored the biblical principle that a house divided cannot stand, underscoring the power of agreement and unity in a marriage.

Conflict resolution was addressed as an inevitable aspect of any relationship. We learned that it's crucial to face problems head-on, communicate openly, and seek solutions together. Avoiding or underestimating issues can lead to bigger problems, but with the right approach, conflicts can be opportunities for growth and understanding.

Lastly, we touched on the importance of sexual intimacy and serving each other with a heart of love. Marriage is not just about what we can get but about how we can bless and serve our partner. By growing and developing together, couples can navigate the changes that life brings and continue to strengthen their relationship.

## **LEARNING AND GROWING:**

- 1. According to the sermon, how does understanding and speaking each other's love languages impact communication? [11:06]
- 2. The sermon emphasizes the importance of communication and trust. How does understanding one's love language contribute to building trust within relationships? [11:06]
- 3. How can you cultivate a servant's heart in your relationship, focusing on how you can bless and serve your partner daily? [35:31]
- 4. What does the sermon suggest is the most important mindset for a successful marriage? How does this mindset relate to the biblical principle of commitment? [05:00]
- 5. Identify your primary love language (and that of your partner). How can you intentionally use this knowledge to improve communication and strengthen your relationship? [11:06]

## **CLOSING PRAYER:**

"Father, thank you for being the example of what our relationships should aspire to be. I pray for strength as we start to break those negative cycles that try to ruin our families. We know by putting you first, our relationship is stronger. So please bring the right people into our lives and remove the wrong ones. Help me be the example you wish me to be in leading my family, friends, and co-workers. In Jesus' name I pray, Amen."