

Reversing The Curse, Pt 1

By Darryl Del Housaye

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It never comes out quite right. Thank you for coming. It gets real lonely when nobody shows up. And when you do something like this, you never know for sure. If anybody is going to show up, you listen to Rod mocker preach and think, oh, man, I'd love to go to his. I got to preach. I don't get to go. And I'm just really grateful for the privilege. When I got a call from Ron, I guess a few months ago about the opportunity to come back again the third time, it either means you're very discerning or glutton for punishment one or the other.

But I was at first surprised. And then I was thrilled. And I'll tell you why. Usually you have speakers say, you know, it is so good to be brought here. And the truth is, many times when somebody asks you to speak or do something, then you pray about it. And then you try to think of something to say. What's the newest thing I'd have to talk about, or what have I been learning? But there's been something that I've had on my mind for I'd say a few years now and I've just been waiting for somebody to listen to me on it.

But I haven't had the right group yet. And so I have been waiting for a long time to say what I want to say the next few days, and I'm so glad so many showed up. So when the numbers begin to go down after you hear what I'm going to say, maybe there's going to be a few of us left, but I come with something on my mind. When Ron shared with you as we go through Ephesians Five, a particular section of it that if you're going to summarize it, get married, that's not too far off. What I would like to do, and I don't know how well it's going to go over and may go over like a pregnant pole Valter.

But what I'm actually going to attempt to do is present a case for getting married. The last I hear, Amen, I was telling Les maybe what we have to do is have everybody sit, boy, girl, boy, girl, and really make this thing great. Show you how to make out, build up to it. The whole thing. We do it and turn the lights off. But what I thought we'd do is rather do a biblical approach to this whole thing. Seriously. A Jewish father had three responsibilities for his son, and if he did not fulfill these responsibilities, he was considered in the community worse than an infidel.

He was not considered to be a good father. The first thing he was to do was to teach his son to love the Lord thy God of all his heart and soul and mind and spirit. The second thing he was to provide for his son was a profession, a skill. Whether that be a Carpenter, whatever it might be, but the third thing that he was to prepare his son was to prepare his son to take on a bride, to be married. Last three, four, five years, we have a very large singles group at our church.

Half of Scottsdale there in Scottsdale, Arizona, half of the population single. They're saying within the next couple of years, half of the population in the United States will be single. It is very in to be single. And of course, I remember answering the Bible questions and trying to help out the poor folks who were single, that there was a biblical basis to be single. So we spent time in one Corinthians, chapter seven and saying, You're freed from earthly concerns and you can serve God, and it's okay.

You don't have a disease just because you're single. But it seems that over these last five to ten years, there's been a real movement in our world. That the norm as being single. And marriage is the exception. Case in point. Now, you gals. If you start talking about I'd like to meet a husband here at Biola. You're going to have people roll their eyes and cough a little bit and say, oh, great. You're here for your Mrs. Real good. Or if one of you guys ever even burped the fact that maybe

you would be interested in finding a wife during these four years, you would go through social ostracism that would be second to hardly anything.

You may get a lot of dates on the other hand, but the fact still is it's not spiritual to talk about things like this. All I can say is this, I have a lot of men in our Church and a lot of women in our Church who are married. They have children. And I see a lot of strong Christian Godly women married to a lot of spiritual flakes. And I'll tell you why it's because these are the same ones.

And I'm not talking so much about the older couples because it was kind of in to get married 10, 15, 20 years ago. But I'm talking about those who've been married less than ten years. I'm finding that these guys kept saying, Well, I'm not going to get married. I'm not going to give no single single. What's that group single to the Rapture, whatever it is, SUP, sir or whatever. Then what happened is they fell in love. Well, first they fell in lust, then they fell in love.

But basically, they fell in love. They found somebody. And then they decided to get married. But they got married, never thinking about getting ready to get married. So all of a sudden, presto chang-o, I am husband. It's an amazing thing. Most of you guys would run around as little tiny boys. You're so cute, a little lizard thing, and mothers would feed you and take care of you. And it was wonderful. And then you became a man. Now many of us became men by default because we just hang around long enough.

You become a man. You don't really make a choice to do that. You just do. And while you gals are laughing the same thing with you, you were little girls and pigtails in the whole thing. And all of a sudden, around age 12 13, weird things begin to happen, which really confused those of us in the 9th grade, I remember my first girlfriend was a niece, Urban. We started dating when we were eight, went together for five years, broke up in junior high because she was a foot taller than I was.

And that was very difficult. But I remember that gals begin to change and you become a woman. Again you never made a choice to do that. Some of you fought it and he just became a woman. But in the Bible, it talks about when a man becomes a husband and a woman becomes a wife and you don't have to. God gave you a free will and it is a choice. And it is a Covenant you make with God to not just be a man but become a husband.

And for a woman, not just to be a woman, but to make a choice to become a wife. But even plumbers have to go to school for sometimes four to five years to learn how to plumb. But we just fall in love. You know, I think the reason that we have gals. Most gals are more ready to get married is because don't tell anybody. And I don't want to break secrets. But you've probably been thinking about it longer than the guys, but we guys, we don't think about it.

There is nothing ungodly unspiritual for a young woman to say. I want to love Lord God of all my heart. And yes, I want to have a profession. I want to serve God. And yes, I want to get married. I believe that marriage is the norm. God created it as the norm singleness, even though our world says the opposite is the exception, even to the point that in one Corinthians seven, some feel it's actually a spiritual gift that God calls some too. But just because socially it's down to get married, since when did we Christians get our order from the world?

Well, like I say, if you're going to leave, now is a good time. But my desire is not to do a lot of wedding ceremonies in three days, but rather, although at \$25 a hit now. But rather, I like to present to you a biblical perspective, a case for getting married. And if I had one goal during our three sessions together, I would like to see the Spirit of God through the teaching of the Word of God, removed the stigma, the negative stigma of being open to getting married and looking for a husband, looking for a wife.

And so the old adage every day is a potential mate that that need not be profanity. Why don't we have a word of prayer? You pray for me that God would maybe use me to help you think this thing through. Okay, Father, thank you so much for the privilege of sharing some things been on my mind for a long time. Lord, it's just really hard when I have a 28 year old man come to me and say, I'm just not ready for a serious commitment. I got married when I was 20.

I wasn't ready for a serious commitment then, but I've learned commitments since then. The Father and the mind, almost 17 years I've been married. I've seen you use my wife.

I've seen you use my kids to make me into a man that you can use.

Father, I would ask that you would help us to understand your scripture, not opinions, but Father, that we would really indeed not be so persuaded by the things other people are saying. So help us. And Father will trust the teaching to your spirit. And we pray this in the name of Jesus Christ and God's children said, Amen. I want to read to you a letter that Chuck Swindle received. I think this is great. Kind of introduces a little bit of the thought. "Dear Chuck, I want you to know that I've been here all week and I've enjoyed every one of your talks.

I know you will help me in my remaining years. I love your sense of humor. Humor has done a lot for me in my spiritual life. How could I have raised twelve children starting at age 32 and not have had a sense of humor? I married at age 31. I didn't worry about getting married. I just left my future to God's will. But every night I hung a pair of men's pants on the bed and knelt down and prayed this prayer, Father in Heaven, hear my prayer and granted, if you can, I've hung a pair of trousers here.

Please fill them with a man." Chuck goes on. "I had a good laugh. In fact, I thought it was such a classic illustration of the right mental attitude toward life that I read it to my congregation in Fullerton, California, when I returned and the congregation that day was half of one of our

families. Mom and a sick daughter were home, but dad and an older son in his twenties were present and heard me read the letter. The mother who knew nothing of the letter, wrote me a note a couple weeks later.

She was brief, and to the point she was concerned about her older son. She said that for the last week or so he had been sleeping in his bed with a bikini draped over the footboard. She wanted to know if she should be concerned." Well, I guess there's different approaches of believing God about this whole thing on finding the mate. But as I took our people some a couple of years ago through the book of Ephesians verse five, verses, we go through and study the Bible being a Bible Church, that's how we do it.

And as I went through the book of Ephesians and we came to chapter five, it hit me what Paul was doing. I have entitled this series Reversing the Curse. And maybe you'll understand what I mean. As I show you, if you go all the way back to the very beginning when God created man and woman. And you know, in Genesis chapter one, verse 27, God creates man in his own image. He creates man, both male and female. He created them. So that means there's male, man and female man.

So it's not when the Bible talks about man this man that, gals you're not ostracized from that thing. But after God creates the man, he has created everything else before that. And he says, It's good, it's complete. It's perfect. It's the way I want it until he comes to the creation of man. And man was basically the first not good of creation. I read an article by a Christian feminist who said that when God created man, it was the first attempt. And then when he finally got his act together, then he created the woman.

Well, maybe that that's true. I don't think so. But he creates the man and man was not complete. As a matter of fact, in Genesis chapter two, he says, this, then the Lord God said, It is not good

for the man to be alone. I will make him a helper suitable for him. So God looks at the creation of man. And he says, this isn't done. This is incomplete. And so then he says, all right. And out of the ground, the Lord God had formed every beast of the field, every bird of the sky, and brought them to the man to see what the man would call them.

And whatever the man called the living creature, that was its name. Well, that's kind of a strange. I tend to ask a lot of questions. When I study the Bible. God, I thought you were talking about Adam being alone, Adam the man being incomplete. And now he's talking about giving names to the animals, by the way, here in the text, those animals, which he had already made. All right. So it's not that he gets confused with Genesis chapter one. But he says in verse 20, and the man gave names to all the cattle and to the birds of the sky, to every beast of the field.

But for Adam, there was not found a helper suitable for him. He goes, oh, okay. See, God knew that Adam was alone. The angelic beings knew that Adam was incomplete. Who was the one person in the universe who did not know he was incomplete? Adam, I mean, he didn't know.

And so God says, all right, Adam, I'm going to give you a little lesson on your incompleteness. Begin to name all the rest of creation. So Adam begins to give names all the creation. Now, Adam. I don't know what his IQ would be, but I'm sure he was higher than a prune, and he could handle the fact that as he named the different animals, God had created the rest of creation, both what? Male and female.

And as Adam began to name all the animals, and he had to have some reason for naming them, he realized there were two kinds of animals, but a similar kind with little plumbing differences. And so what he did was he realized that Adam realized he was alone. Now notice what God does. There was not a helper suitable for him. A completion, a helpmate. Then the Lord does

some minor surgery. So the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man he slept, took one of his ribs and closed up the flesh at that place.

And the Lord God fashioned into a woman, the rib which he had taken from the man and brought her to the man. And the woman has been a pain in the side ever since. No, I'm sorry. Somebody wrote that in there. That's not in the Bible, but God does a little work. He opens Adam up. And some people say, now, do you believe that literally? Why not? I mean, it comes down to let's let God be God. And if God created everything, then can't God open somebody up and take their rib out and create something out of that if he created man out of dirt.

So it gets down to your theology of what do you believe about God? Yes, I believe this literally.

The little play on words. Here the word for Adam is Adam. But here man was ish in Hebrew, and he creates the Isha. Isha is the ideas from the man, the woman was created. And they say that's where they get the English word woman, the woman's from the womb of the man. Whatever that might be, he creates the woman. And that's the design.

Now watch what happens. The Lord got fashioned to a woman, the rib which he had taken from the man and brought her to the man. And the man said, wow, which is translated, this is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh. She shall be called woman because she was taken out of the man. Now there's a Hebrew parable that when God created the woman, he did not create the woman from a bone from the man's head, lest he should usurp authority over him, nor a bone from the man's foot, lest he should trod upon her but a bone from his side close to his heart, a place of equality.

She was created to complete the man. Now that was accretion of the woman's. Now all we've got is one woman, one man. Where are we going to go from there? God says, I have a better idea.

Verse 24 for this cause, what cause? The fact that the woman was created out of the man for the

purpose of completing the man. For this cause, a man shall leave his father and mother and mother and mother. Excuse me. He shall leave his father and his mother and shall cleave to his wife, and they shall become one flesh.

Interesting thing there on the whole issue of fornication. If I read the text chronologically correct, it says he shall leave his father and mother cleave to his wife, and then the two become what? Then they become one flesh. Anything out of that design is by definition, fornication. That's why, in one Thessalonians chapter four, he says, you want to know God's will? It's for your sanctification, your sexual purity to abstain from sexual fornication. Because as God designed it from the very beginning, it was a man leaving his father and mother, one man, one woman coming together, becoming one flesh.

And you know, there's all kinds of studies you can do on the one flesh. But I'll tell you this much, literally you become one flesh when you have children, because my John and my can't, they're not really mine. They're lone to me. But they are literally the one flesh of Holly and Darryl. Now God designed something here. One man, one woman come together. And then that's the couple, he says, you multiply have children. Some say, well, therefore, should we always have a bunch of children? Well, they were to fill the Earth.

And Adam and Eve have already really fulfilled that commitment. The Earth is filled. So it's not that God says already have children. That's another issue. Although the Bible assumes you will have children, as it says in Ephesians six fathers, you make sure you're teaching your sons, in Colossians three, you make sure you do not instill bitterness in your children. The Bible assumes you're going to have children. All right. Well, what happens? We got marriage, husband, wife. God puts it together, and that's all that marriage is. People kind of say, Well, what's in a piece of

paper, commitment, public testimony that I'm not ashamed to declare that I will live with this woman and make a commitment to God to do so.

That's what's in a piece of paper. What happened? I'll show you what happened. Chapter three happened. So now you've got Satan comes in, and Satan is always trying to bend and trying to distort the design of God. I mean, God says, all right, one man, one woman, come together, have sex, have children, praise God. Bed unto file. It's going to be great. You're going to love it. Of course. Then you go through the book of Genesis and they say, Well, Hey, Satan's got a better idea.

So then we're going to be introduced to homosexuality and we're going to be introduced to incest. And we're going to be introduced to adultery and on and on and on and on. Satan consistently tries to distort and bend the design of God from the very beginning. Well, you want to know the very first thing he goes after the relationship between a man and a woman in marriage. You hear James Dobson and others talk about the threat of the family, the family's fallen apart, and we're trying to do all these things to protect the family.

And I agree, but I think that the greater attack is one step before, people just don't want to get married. You saw the newspaper last week. More do without I dos. Most US couples are living together without trying, tying a knot. They're shunning marriage. But choosing monogamy. A new government study shows they don't want to get AIDS. So isn't that great motivation? Say just you and me, Babe, because I don't want to get diseased. It makes you feel real loved, real, encouraged there. But I see that the world is saying, don't get married.

And it started all the way back here. Now, why? Are kids saying, Well, I don't want to get married. Why are people waiting? What's the answer? Because all our parents are getting divorced. I saw what happened to my parents. I don't want to get through a divorce. And the

statistic they usually throw at you is one out of every two marriages are ending up in divorce.

Well, there's another way of looking at that. One out of every two marriages are making it. But even if you know the new stats on that friend, it's not one out of every two.

It's a myth. Last year, one out of every six marriages are fallen apart in divorce. So first of all, this whole excuse of saying, Well, I don't want to go through divorce. So therefore, I don't want to make commitment. No, there's something else here. Let me tell you why we're coming up with excuses to wait and not to get married. It happened in Genesis three. As you know that he was deceived. Adam made a choice that he would rather be with Eve than with God. So it was through Adam.

Sin came into the world. Eve was deceived. Adam sinned against God. And that's why Jesus is not the last Eve. He's the last Adam. So when you gals get that thing on you, when they say it's because of you, we got sin. No, it was because of Adam because Eve was deceived. But Adam made a choice, I love this woman more than I love that person. Well, then you know the curse.

Look at the curse and look at Genesis three, verse 16. He gets finally to the woman.

He says to the woman, he said, I will greatly multiply your pain in childbirth. And that's true. My wife has had two a little bit of help for me. Well, I'm not talking about that part. Well, yeah, but anyway, I remember the first time it was when Lamar was just getting going and I didn't go through it. I didn't know anything about it, but the people at the hospital thought I had. So they wheeled me right in there with Holly and Holly sweat, and she's going through pain, and they say, okay, we'll leave you here and you can coach your wife.

Okay. So they leave Holly's here going. So I said, all right. All right. Holly, Holly, see, get your pain. Had psychology BA in psychology. I got this now. I said, Holly, give me the names of the States. She did all 50. Then I did, but she was still hurting. They didn't come back saying, okay,

give me their capitals. Well, that's when she started pushing the button for the nurse. Get to get this guy out of here. Well, the second time then I learned, I went to La Maze classes, and I brought my whistle, my cap, and I was ready with my catcher's glove.

So I had to figure it out the second time. But I know that gals go through tremendous pain at childbirth, but that's not all. That's a pain. He says, in your pain, you shall bring forth children, yet your desire shall be for your husband. You go, oh, wonderful. Even though I always thought that meant that here she's going through pain. You did this to me, Ken. She hates him. But after she has the baby, she still will have a desire for her husband. And so the whole point is that she will not be bitter towards her husband because he caused so much pain for her having a baby.

That's what I thought it meant. So I read the last phrase and then studied the Hebrew. It says, and or even he shall rule over you. Here's, this poor woman, she's gone through a lot of pain. And she says, I have a desire for you. I still love you, even though you made me go through all this. And I say, Well, I shall rule over you. It doesn't make sense. Then when you go on a little bit further and you see the curse on the man, it says, Curse, it is the ground because of you, and toil you shall eat of it all the days of your life.

First of all, God, I've learned as I'm getting a little bit older, that you make sense. When I was your age, I had to walk more by faith than I do now because I've lived long enough to begin to see the wisdom of the wisdom of God, that God does not come from left field. And on this one, all of a sudden, it makes sense. I have found there are two areas that women gain much of their self worth, right or wrong. One is being a mother, and one is being a wife.

And those are the very two things that women can draw their total significance from and not from God. So it's interesting God was saying, all right, the two things that will probably cause you to separate yourself from me and draw your self worth from me. Your God is the fact that

you're going to be so excited about being a mother. And I've seen women totally devote their lives to their kids. And when their kids are gone, mother is nothing. Or if they fail as a mother, mother is nothing.

Well, if they don't cut it with their kids, atleast I'm a wife in. So it's relation with the husband.

God says, I'm going to make both difficult children. You're going to go through pain. Wife. He's going to rule over you. But then it says, what about a man? Guess we're men. Guess where guys get their self worth. I'd love to say by being fathers and being husbands, but that's not the case.

The thing that will hurt a man more than anything else will when he loses his job.

Nothing will put a man in depression faster than he loses and kicked out of his profession. And yet what is it right here? God says for you, man. You're going to get yourself identity from your profession. I'm going to make even the very first profession difficult. But here's what I want to look at. Here's the curse. I want us to look on. This marriage thing is the relationship man, woman, man was created woman out of the man to be a helpmate to the man. They're supposed to be one.

And they're supposed to continue and do what God has them to do. But now problems. Notice it says, yet your desire shall be for your husband. Now, that word desire is only used a couple of times. The next time it's used. In the next chapter, look at Genesis, chapter four. Remember, they finally get together and they have a couple of kids, Cain and Abel. And as you know, Cain kills Abel and notice, look at verse six and seven. Then the Lord said to Cain, Why are you angry? And why has your countenance fallen? If you do well, will not your countenance be lifted up. And if you do not, well, sin is crouching at the door, and it's what its desire is for you. But you must master it. It's the same Hebrew word. So the word does not mean well, your affection.

You're going to still have an affection for your husband even though he made you go through the

pregnancy. No, that's not what he's saying at all, because he's not saying all right, sin is crouching at the door and your affection.. but you're going to have to mask.

No, the word basically means the desire to control. Part of the curse is that a woman her old nature will motivate her to try to manipulate and control her husband or men. And you gals are very good. And you start learning that thing usually right after puberty on how to use whatever you've got to use to be able to manipulate and get what you want. And so he's saying all right. Your desire will be to control your husband and manipulate him to meet your needs.

Meanwhile, what's his response? It says, and he will what? He will rule over you because God created used to create men to be stronger than women. I don't know about that anymore. But the fact still being that throughout history, men have ruled over women because they tend to be physically stronger, not necessarily smarter. But they tend to be more intimidating. They have all that aggression. They've got all that stuff to be the hunter, provider, protector, all that stuff, and they use it against their wife to manipulate their wife to rule over them.

Now, what does it mean to rule? Rule simply means, I want you. I will force you to meet my needs. So now here's we got a great, wonderful relationship. We've got a woman, she says. I'm going to manipulate you to have my needs met. And my husband says, Great, I'm going to rule over you and force you to meet my needs. And thus we've got a wonderful relationship called marriage. And it only took Satan one chapter to try to go after the very thing, which was the first design in any human relationship that God created between the man and the woman in marriage. So I'm saying, let's first brighten up. It's not just a social thing that it's not popular to get married because people get divorced. And how can you get along now with that in mind? Go to Ephesians five because I believe what the Apostle Paul does in Ephesians Five is he reverses the curse. He reverses the curse because the curse says the woman will try to manipulate and control

and have her needs met by her husband. Paul says, wives being submission to your own husbands. As to the Lord, for the husband is the head of the wife, as Christ also is the head of the Church, he himself being the Savior of the body.

But as the Church is in submission to Christ, so also the wives ought to be in their own husbands and everything. Then at the end of the chapter, he says, and see to it that the wife gives reverence to her husband. Whoa. Instead of manipulating, trying to get your needs met by manipulating your husband says, you submit to your husband, you submit and meet his needs and you give reverence to him. But then it says the curse says, and men will rule over their wives. But then Paul says, Husbands love your wives. Just as Christ also loved the Church and gave himself, what's the next word? Guys up for them?

Jesus said in Matthew 20. In the world among the Gentiles, they Lord it. There's the word, Lord it over one another. That is try to intimidate and get people to meet their needs, serve them. But he says, it will not be among you. For the Grace among you shall be your what? What's the definition of leadership? Shall be your servant, your servant. See, I believe that a lot of problems we have in marriages and relationships is that guys tend to confuse headship with Lordship. Lordship is simply you serve me headship is I am your servant as we go through and we'll do this the next couple of days. I want to go through what the design of marriage is after God has reversed the curse that, you know, guys, you're going to find out my wife has no problems submitting and giving reverence to me. She's thrilled to do it because it's not really hard to submit to a man who is committed to serve you and his decisions or for your success and your best interests.

See, if we can reverse the curse and get back to the design of God between a man and a woman and a commitment to God in marriage, you're going to find that the reason why God designed it

at the beginning of all his design and creation. And that's what I want to do in our time together. But I want to introduce this particular section by getting a running jump. I want to do this by go back and look at verse seven of chapter five. Notice that first word there, therefore, okay when you have it, therefore, and you've heard it many times.

It's therefore reason. All right. He's based on something he's just said. So you go up to the next, therefore. Well, the next, therefore is the very first word of the chapter. And he goes back to chapter four. So when you look at what is that therefore for? Well, look at verse 15. We got another there for. So I don't know what they're for, therefore they're for that four, therefore. Well, I think you can kind of pull out and you'll notice, start with the therefore in verse seven, therefore, do not be partakers with them, for you were formerly darkness.

But now you are light in the Lord walk as children of light. I was raised Southern Baptist then I became a Christian. But I continued Southern Baptist for a while. But I was raised in the Church is my point. And I was raised on religious platitudes. I heard religious platitude here, and a religious platitude is something that gets you excited that you cannot obey. All right. It's the violation of James chapter one. It says in verse 19. It says, Be quick to hear, slow to get angry. Quick to listen. What is it talking about? Well, count ten before you get mad. No, no. The context is be quick to hear, slow to get angry when you hear the word of God implanted. In other words, he's talking there in James 1:19, the following of how you listen to the Word of God when you listen to it. Don't get all defensive and angry and uptight, but listen to it. Then he says, now be doers of the word, not here only, if you're here, only it's like a guy going to a mirror.

And by the way, don't do that. About a couple of months ago, I just started looking in the mirror. I just started looking at me. I was told I had a guy come in my office a couple of years ago and said, you know, Daryl, you have a face for radio and a voice for TV. I just thought I would look

at this thing. Don't do that. They get very depressing because I look at it. Oh, shoot that. And oh, man, the hairline and that nose never did straighten out.

And Holly was next to me. And I said, you know, Holly, I'm really not a very good looking guy in a real sweet way. Holly looked at me and said, Well, you know, I didn't marry you for your looks. Well, anyhow he's talking about here of a guy looking in the mirror and he says, Well, call, I got to do some things on this baby and then walks away and forgets the way he looked. That's usually how it is when we hear the word of God.

That is my greatest fear. What's going to happen today and what happened this morning with Dr. Rodmacher is we kind of say, Well, man, then we walk away and Satan's doing his job on us. And of course, of course, we're not going to remember. I believe there are two verses in the Bible that are tragic among Christians. The first one is the most disobeyed verse in the Bible by Christians. I'm talking about Matthew 18, verse 15, where it says, if you've got a problem with somebody, go to them in private, the most disobeyed verse in the entire Christianity.

In that great statement, I think I can back it up. Second verse, the most disbelieved verse in the Bible by Christians, Ephesians 6:12, for we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against powers and principalities. Usually the last thing we think about is that maybe there's something else going on here, giving me thoughts. And maybe I ought not to be as angry or as frustrated as I really am. See, the power with darkness is on, friend. It's a bad case of the normals for any believer.

And I believe the very first thing that they will do to us is cause us if we look at the mirror and we say, yeah, I've got to do something here, walk away. You're going to forget. That's why I believe there must be a conversion every time you hear the word of God. What I mean by conversion, a conversion from hearing to doing, there better be something to obey because you

want to know something people say, how do you remember so much Bible? I love to say, Well, because I'm so brilliant.

No, I'm not so brilliant. I'll tell you why I remember so much Bible. You tend to remember what you obey if you tend to obey things you've learned. You never forget that you obeyed. You never forget why you obeyed. You remember the verses. And so therefore, what he's saying here is that as you hear the word of God, notice. Therefore he says, You're no longer in darkness. You're in light. Walk as children of light. Religious platitudes where we just hear things that we cannot obey. We're wasting your time.

Well, here's a religious platitude. Now walk as children of light. Amen Amen like a giant GE light bulb in the sky. God is light. How do you apply that thing? Well, Paul is a pragmatist. He tells you what he means, but he defines his term in the next verse, verse nine for the fruit of the light consists of things that are good, things that are right and things that are true. In other words, if I say all right, whatever I do, I'm just going to do that which is good.

That is that builds and encourages other people. I'm going to only do that which is right. What's right? What God says is right. I'm only going to believe things that are true, not necessary in newspapers. What's true? What God says is true. Do you want to know something? You are the most credible person. You know. There is one person you will always believe no matter what.

And you know they won't lie to you. Who is it? You! But guess what? You probably spend more time lying to yourself than anything else.

But the problem is that you trust you and you're lying to you. You're betraying yourself because the fact is you will believe you if you keep telling yourself I'm stupid. I'm stupid. Not telling yourself that I'm stupid. But you're stupid. If you keep telling yourself that you're stupid, you're stupid friend, you will begin to believe in your being that you're stupid. Well, it's the same thing.

That's why you got to make sure that what you say to you because you believe you is truth. And the only truth you have guaranteed is truth is the word of God.

What is good. What is right? What is true? Now notice what he says here. Do not be partakers in unfruitful deeds of darkness, but instead, now expose them. It's disgraceful even to speak of these things. Now look at verse 15. So he says, now, do you want to please God? Like he says, I want to learn how to please God. I want to do what is good. What is right. I want to believe what is true, what he says. Now, therefore, verse 15, be careful how you walk.

The word careful is the word *acribas* sound familiar? Walk accurately. In other words, God says, don't make mistakes. When you are younger, you can make mistakes and everybody covered for you. You're beginning to learn something, aren't you, boy, mom and Dad's not around to cover for you. And the more mistakes you make now, the more not only you pay for it, but others pay for it. So he says, Now, Hey, let's be careful how you walk. Not as unwise men, but as wise, making the most of your time because the days are evil.

He says, so then do not be foolish. What's another word for foolish starts with an s. Yes, he says, don't be foolish. Don't be stupid on this thing. No. What does it mean to be foolish? Can Christians be a fool? No. Psalm 14, one says the fool says in his heart, what that there is no God. So a Christian cannot be a fool? Can a Christian Act foolishly? How? All he's got to do is pretend there is no God. In other words, believe or make decisions or do what you do.

And don't give God a second thought that maybe he has something to say. Then you are acting by definition foolishly because you're living and making your decisions just like a pagan. Who is the fool now? He says here, don't be foolish about this thing. We're foolish about what thing. But understand what the will of the Lord is now. Like McCarthy used to say, some people believe

God is this cosmic Easter Bunny and his will or little Easter eggs. And he hides them all around through life.

And you spend your life trying to find the will of God. Then you have 18 books ranging from 14 steps to 200 steps on finding the will of God. You know what he says here? If you don't know the will of God, you're what? You're acting foolishly. I have two boys, like I said. And if you really think I make it difficult for them to know what I really want them to do. Not at all. And God says here in the word, understand, literally means put together the will of God.

God wants you to know what he wants you to do. So therefore, make sure you know what God wants you to do. So, he says. And do not get drunk with wine, which is stupid, dissipation wasteful. But be filled with the Holy Spirit. That's one of those metaphysical verses. People go, it's not metaphysical. The word filled is the word play rattle. It needs to be controlled by the Holy Spirit is not a liquid. All right? It's not. I have a little Holy Spirit coming up here and filled my Holy Spirit down this arm to the Holy Spirit.

Holy Spirit comes up here and right out there like so. And listen, the Holy Spirit is not a liquid. Where's the Holy Spirit? I mean, if I had this arm cut off, would I leak Holy Spirit? Do Christian midgets have as much Holy Spirit as you? I mean, we got to get rid of this liquidity idea. The Holy Spirit just kind of puts us on like a little costume. Well, where is the Holy Spirit live? In us! Some say in the pituitary. I don't know, but I know wherever my Spirit is the Holy Spirit is because Romans 8:19, He bears witness with my spirit.

But now he says, be filled. Not like liquid, but be controlled by the person of the Holy Spirit.

Holy Spirit's. A person he feels he thinks he has a will. He speaks. And so he's a person. By definition, he has personality. Now, what does it mean for one person to control another person?

I did this a couple of years ago, but could you stand up for a moment? Yeah, we got times to embarrass you. Go ahead. Stand right up. Okay.

Nice guy. What's your name? Tim. Hi, Tim. Tim, turn around. Tim, I'd like you to take your left hand and your right hand, and I could just kind of touch them like this. Okay. I like to put them down slowly. Now, would you do that five times while I'm sharing something with him? Go right ahead. A question right now. Who is controlling Tim? Let's vote. It's kind of like how to know gerbils, male or female vote. All right, so let's vote on this thing. How many believe that Tim is controlling himself?

Let me see your hands. Okay, good. Put your hands down. How many believe that I'm controlling Tim? Did you quench the Spirit, or did you do all five? All five. Oh, good. You can sit down. Thank you. How many feel that I was controlling Tim? How many say I'm not going to vote? You're going to tell me anyway? Well, let's see what was happening there. I'm a person. Take that by faith. Tim is a person greater faith. Now, what you have here is simply this. As long as Tim here's, the term yielded his will. In other words, when Tim did exactly what I willed him to do, what I told him to do. Who was controlling Tim? I was as long as with his free will, he submitted his will to mine now. So that one. So as long as he basically obeyed what I said, as long as he was obeying what I said, I was controlling him. That's all the verse says.

That's why he says just before that. You're foolish if you don't know the will of God.

Know the will of God so you can do the will of God. For if you are every day doing what is good, what is right, what is true, then you are filled with the Spirit of God that is controlled by the Spirit of God. He will make it successful. He will make it exactly the way he wants it. Now.

Then he talks about, how do you know? Your fill in the Spirit starts speaking to yourselves in

Psalms, Him, spiritual Psalms. And then we leave out verse 21 and be subject to one another in the fear of Christ.

Now he's going to apply. You want to know the will of God? You want to obey it. So you'll be controlled by the Spirit of God. So you can be successful as God wants you to be, he says, now let's apply it. And what's the first application Paul draws the what relationship? The marriage relationship. So now let's talk about being a wife. And then let's talk about being a husband from there. But this is the application of Paul. Now, does it sound like from the Scripture point of view that marriage is the exception?

It's for those who could not really make it in the real world, who needed each other for a crutch?

Now I read the scriptures that God created marriage as his design. Singleness is the exception.

And we can know the will of God exactly what makes a woman a wife and reverse the curse.

And we can know what makes a man a husband and reverse the curse. There's real good reasons for you to get married. Very good reasons for you to get married. And so that's where we're going to take it from here.

So we'll pick it up tomorrow. Father, thank you so much for the opportunity just to share things you're teaching me and, Father, I just pray that you'd make these things so we can make the conversion from hearing to doing. Father, maybe the thing we need to do about what we talked about this morning is just make a decision right now that we are open. If it is the will of God, we're open to get married whenever you bring the person into our life. And as soon as we can learn what it means, why your heads are bowed and your eyes closed.

Like I said, I don't want you to leave this place and blow me away. If you are willing to pray that thank God, I'm willing to get off my prejudice against marriage and my satirical jokes and my putdowns and my criticalness and negativeness against marriage and God. If you can teach me

through this Pastor Kid through Ephesians Five, it is the will of God for me to marry. Be open to that even in the next few years. Lord, I'm open to that. If you're willing, I want you to put your hand up and make a commitment to God that you're open to that.

Go ahead. Are you willing? Ok you put your hand down? Who else I'll assume those of you did not put your hands up? It's because you're already married, Father. Now let us be children of obedience. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ God's. People said, Amen. You have a five minute break and then back to your Dr. Allan.