



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

¹²*So, as those who have been chosen of God, holy and beloved, put on a heart of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience;
¹³bearing 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

¹⁰*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. ¹¹in order that Satan might not outwit us. For we are not unaware of his schemes.* 2 Corinthians 2:10-11

²⁶*“In your anger do not sin.” Do not let the sun go down while you are still angry, ²⁷and 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**

²¹*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?”*

²²*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.**

¹¹*Dear friends, if God so loved us, then we also ought to love one another. ¹²No 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