

WELCOME

May 2.2010

Discovery is a non-denominational Christian Church that seeks to lead people to discover and experience life, love and hope in Jesus Christ. These values drive our Sunday morning worship, community gatherings throughout the week, and ministries we serve in.

MAY MESSAGE SERIES FORGING STRONG FAMILIES

This week's message:

Forging A Strong Marriage

forge: (fôrj)

- (v): 1. to form (as metal) by heating and hammering.
- 2. To form or to bring into being, especially by an expenditure of effort
- (n): 1. a furnace or a workshop where metal is heated and wrought
- 2. A workshop where wrought iron is produced or iron is made malleable.

Seeing God's design in marriage: (Genesis 1:26-31; 2:18-25)

- In marriage, God **SHOWS HIS GOODNESS.**
- In marriage, God **ACCOMPLISHES HIS PURPOSES.**

MARRIAGE: A lifelong COVENANT RELATIONSHIP between one man and one woman that reflects God's character and glorifies Christ.

COVENANT: A PERSONAL COMMITMENT to a relationship on both sides.

Seeing God's goodness and purpose in your marriage today:

1. It starts with **COMMITMENT.**
2. Examine **YOUR** flaws first.
3. Lean on **God's** grace.
4. Persevere in difficult times; Celebrate in happy times.
5. Extend grace and forgiveness.

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DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Read Genesis 1:26-31. What was God's original purpose in marriage?

Read Genesis 2:18-25. What fulfillment and joy characterized the marriage of Adam and Eve? How do you experience fulfillment and joy in your marriage? On a daily basis, do you focus more on the joy or struggles of your marriage?

What is God's primary purpose in your life – your happiness or your holiness? Which are you more focused on in your daily life? How does that impact your view of marriage?

Read James 1:4. What role does perseverance have in growing closer to God? Do you believe that perseverance is a part of marriage? How would that thought transform your attitudes and behaviors in marriage?

What have you learned about yourself since being marriage? What have you learned about God? How do you depend on God in your marriage?

What can you give thanks for in your spouse? Spend this week thinking of the positives that your spouse brings to your life. Thank God daily for those attributes and characteristics in your spouse. Encourage him or her.

MORE NOTES: _____

Need Prayer? Life is hard. You were not meant to live it alone. Following our message, an elder or prayer partner will be available to pray with you at our Prayer Patio (on the right side of the theater). You can also share your prayer request on your **Connection Card** and place it in this morning's offering bag.