


FACING THE FEAR THAT BUILDS RELATIONSHIPS

Edmund Teo

“Fear is the path to the Dark Side.
Fear leads to anger, anger leads to hate,
hate leads to suffering.”

— Y O D A



“The fear of the Lord is
the beginning of wisdom.”

— S O L O M O N

MARRIAGE AS
GOD'S **IMAGE**

So God created man in his own image,
in the image of God he created him;
male and female he created them.

GENESIS 1:27 (ESV)

The invisible is made
visible by the physical



MARRIAGE AS
GOD'S **INVENTION**

A wedding is man's
invitation but a marriage
is God's invention.

MARRIAGE AS GOD'S INVENTION

Designed to
leave

Therefore a man shall leave his
father and mother ...

EPHESIANS 5:31A (ESV)

Parents play an important role in your spouse selection. They have more life experience and have a deeper understanding of marriage and life.

It is important to consult them when choosing a life partner.

Parents, if you have a married child,
it's your responsibility to let them go.

Married children, your spouse
is your priority, your parents are
your responsibility.

But if a widow has children or grandchildren, let them first learn to show godliness to their own household and to make some return to their parents, for this is pleasing in the sight of God... But if anyone does not provide for his relatives, and especially for members of his household, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever.

1 TIMOTHY 5:4,8 (ESV)

Let your father and mother be glad;
let her who bore you rejoice.

PROVERBS 23:25 (ESV)

MARRIAGE AS GOD'S INVENTION

Designed to
leave

Designed to
cleave

...and hold fast to his wife...

EPHESIANS 5:31B (ESV)

A marriage can survive
without first or the last
but not without this one.

This glue is not just love or the law but the **Lord Jesus**. It is not just chemistry, compatibility and contract but covenant.

It is a permanent bond—
only broken by death.

MARRIAGE AS GOD'S INVENTION

Designed to
leave

Designed to
cleave

Designed to
become one

...and the two shall become one flesh.

EPHESIANS 5:31C (ESV)

It is important, only if it rests on the first two pillars of marriage.

If cleaving refers to the spiritual, becoming “one flesh” refers to the physical joining.

Without the first two, this third aspect is empty of meaning.

It is damaging to self and all future relationships.

MARRIAGE AS
GOD'S INSTRUCTION

MARRIAGE AS GOD'S INSTRUCTION

Husbands, love your wives as yourselves.

However, let each one of you
love his wife as himself...

EPHESIANS 5:33A (ESV)

#Love your wife in the same way
YOU LOVE YOURSELF.

And he said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: **You shall love your neighbour as yourself.** On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets."

MATTHEW 22:37-40 (ESV)

#Love your wife in the same way
GOD LOVES YOU.

We love because He first loved us.

1 JOHN 4:19 (ESV)

#Love your wife in the same way
YOU LOVE YOUR ENEMIES.

If you love those who love you, what benefit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them ... **But love your enemies,** and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return, and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High, for He is kind to the ungrateful and the evil.

LUKE 6:32,35 (ESV)

Every successful relationship
must have the 4 Cs:

Covenant

Communication

Commitment

Compromise

We have overemphasised compatibility
and chemistry!

Compromise because it is
better to **BEND** a little than
to **BREAK** a relationship.

MARRIAGE AS GOD'S INSTRUCTION

Husbands, love your wives as yourselves.

**Wives, respect your husbands in the
fear of God.**

...submitting to one another out of
reverence (*phobos*) for Christ ... and
let the wife see that she respects
(*phobeomai*) her husband.

EPHESIANS 5:21, 33B (ESV)

Submitting yourselves one to
another in the fear of God.

EPHESIANS 5:21 (KJV)

and subject yourselves to one
another in the fear of Christ.

EPHESIANS 5:21 (NASB)

Yet, let every one of you do the same.
Let everyone love his wife, even as
himself. And let the wife see that she
fears her husband.

EPHESIANS 5:33 (REVISED GENEVA TRANSLATION)

let the wife see that she fear her husband.

EPHESIANS 5:33B (ASV)

but as to the wife [I speak] that she
may fear the husband.

EPHESIANS 5:33B (DARBY TRANSLATION)

Submitting yourselves one to another
in the fear of God... However, let each
one of you love his wife as himself
(in the fear of God), and let the wife
see that she respects her husband
(in the fear of God).

EPHESIANS 5:21,33 (ED TEO)

THERE ARE TWO ELEMENTS:

- **Faith**
- **Obedience**

Obedience makes visible your **faith**.

Obedience is the visible expression
of the invisible **faith**.

Faith **COMES** through hearing the Word
but is **CULTIVATED** and **COMPLETED**
through obedience.

Faith in God produces the fear
of God and the love for God.

When faith is absent,
negative fear is present.

We fear the unknown.
When faith is broken,
love is shaken.

Blessed is the one who
fears the Lord always ...

PROVERBS 28:14A (ESV)

**Husbands, love your wives in
the fear of God.**

**Wives, respect your husbands
in the fear of God.**

Just as Christ's headship was shown not through the use of force, but through the sacrifice of Himself for her.

Likewise the husband's
headship is shown not by
forcing but by sacrificing.

Grow in the fear of God
as you make a new start
from today.

HUSBAND AND WIFE:

From this day forward, we invite Jesus to be at the centre of our marriage and to make us one.

We want our marriage to reflect the image of God's relationship with humanity.

HUSBAND:

I belong to you. I am not afraid of you. I am committed to love you just as I love myself and as Christ love the Church. I ask for your forgiveness for my failure to love you like Christ loves you.

WIFE:

I belong to you. I am not afraid of you. I am committed to respect you in the fear of God. I ask for your forgiveness for my failure to respect you in the fear of God.

Amen.