



Oneness Forever

Life Principle #3

Handouts: Chapter #4

* The Mystery Process

"And the two shall become one flesh. This mystery is great; but I am speaking with reference to Christ and the church" (Ephesians 5:3-32).



(1) Unconditional love, (2) Humble Submission, and (3) Oneness Forever

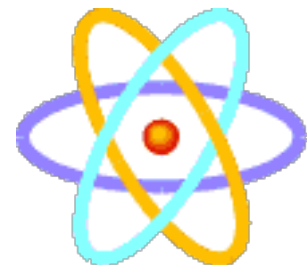
* Oneness _____

- ✦ Oneness is difficult to understand
- ✦ Oneness is revealed in marriage & redemption
- ✦ Oneness brings amazing transformation
- ✦ Oneness is proclaimed by God



* An Illustration of the Atom

- ✦ The Whole
- ✦ The Parts
 - Nucleus
 - Electrons
- ✦ Mysterious _____



Marriage and atoms are held together by mystery forces.

* Describing Oneness

"For this cause a man shall leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave to His wife; and they shall become one flesh" (Genesis 2:24).

- ✦ Husband leaves
- ✦ Husband Clings
- ✦ Marital Union



* The Drift Toward Divorce

- ✦ Divorce is built on a _____
- ✦ Acceptance of lie fosters waywardness
- ✦ Relationship further deteriorates
- ✦ Lives as if separate
- ✦ Divorce



* The Foundation of Oneness

"Consequently they are no longer two, but one flesh. What therefore God has joined together, let no man separate" (Matthew 19:6).

- ✦ God's design and _____
- ✦ Solid
- ✦ Shaky? How can I strengthen?

* Remarriage anyone?

"And He (Jesus) said to them, "Whoever divorces his wife and marries another woman commits adultery against her" (Mark 10:11).

- ✦ Remarriage after divorce is adultery.
- ✦ The marriage bond is broken through death. Remarriage is permissible after this.

"A wife is bound as long as her husband lives; but if her husband is dead, she is free to be married to whom she wishes, only in the Lord" (1 Corinthians 7:39).

* The Ranch & Freedom

Good marriage is like a huge ranch, you could go for miles and miles and rarely run into the property fence.

- ✦ (1) Freedom

♦ (2) _____ (temptation)

♦ (3) Fixed heart

* The Spiritual Analogy

♦ _____ Christ (88 times in NT)

11 times 'in Christ' or 'in Him' is used in Ephesians chapter

1.

♦ **Through Baptism**

Baptism is a physical ceremony that displays our oneness with Christ. Lose old identity; adopt new one.

♦ **For Service**

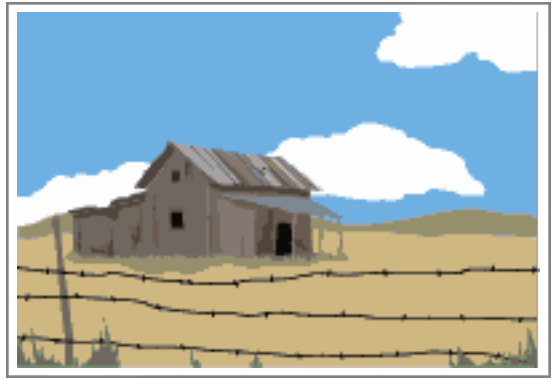
Philippians 1:27-28

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ" (Ephesians 1:3).

"In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace" (Ephesians 1:7).

"Or do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus have been baptized into His death? Therefore we have been buried with Him through baptism into death, in order that as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. For if we have become united with Him in the likeness of His death, certainly we shall be also in the likeness of His resurrection, knowing this, that our old self was crucified with Him, that our body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin; for he who has died is freed from sin. Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with Him" (Romans 6:3-8).

"Only conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ; so that whether I come and see you or remain absent, I may hear of you that you are standing firm in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel; in no way alarmed by your opponents--which is a sign of destruction for them, but of salvation for you, and that too, from God" (Philippians 1:27-28).



* Marriage temptation

We see a spirit of rejection and treachery.

♦ **1) Spirit of _____** (sensuality, immorality, porn)

I allow my heart to be delighted in another and thus leave my devotion to the one to whom I am pledged.

♦ **2) Spirit of Criticism**

I disdain or even hate my spouse so I am critical and easily angered.



* Affirmation of Oneness

- 1) _____ yourself to never entertain the thought of divorce or separation as a way out.
- 2) Spend time together. Have a 'date' once a week.
- 3) Completely forgive the other. Don't harbor bitterness. "Love covers a multitude of sins."
- 4) Express affection and desire for each other beyond the bedroom.
- 5) Talk together about issues, children and other needs.
- 6) Think through and discuss how you two complement each other.
- 7) Refuse to argue. Acknowledge differences but then solve problems.
- 8) Pray together regularly. (More than at meal time!)
- 9) Study God's Word together.
- 10) Develop a family vision. (How does God want you as a family to minister in this world?)

* Attitude of Oneness

- Determine to only love my wife.
- Fight temptation by affirming my love for my wife.
- Trust God's timing to fulfill my own desires and needs.
- Refuse to get bitter. Wait for the mood to pass.
- Quickly apologize for my wrongdoings.
- Remember God's desire to work through both of us united.
- Prayers without being at peace with her are not heard.
- Great _____ comes through being in harmony with one's spouse.

➡ Take Home Project

- Express your desire for oneness each day to God.
- Repent from a 'two-ness' marriage.
- Destroy pornography and sensual things from your home.
- As a couple go out on a 'date' this week.
- Commit to not arguing.
- Find a practical way to affirm your oneness every day.

BGM #4 Answers Oneness Forever

Oneness Forever
Mysterious force
Divorce is built on a lie
God's design and proclamation
(2) Fence (temptation)
In Christ (88 times in NT)
1) Spirit of adultery
1) Commit yourself to never ...
Great joy comes through ...