

Introduction: Falling in Love Again with Your Husband

Lecture Notes

- We only have two orientations:
 - 1) dead self
 - 2) the self put to death and alive in Christ

- Secret Hopes
 - What are my secret hopes? Where am I placing my hope in my marriage?
 - If we place our hope in anything apart from Christ, then it will keep us from full devotion to God and to others.

- We are our husband's help-meet by being Christ to him. Yet, we must know Christ intimately to be like Him.

- What keeps us from giving God our all is fear of losing control. We are called to surrender 100% of ourselves to God by the power of the Spirit.

- We strengthen ourselves by:
 - 1) **S=Sovereign**: Remembering God is sovereign
 - 2) **S=Scripture**: Being in Scripture
 - 3) **S=Satisfied**: Being satisfied in God's love
 - 4) **S=Sacrificing**: our own way for God's way
 - 5) **S=Standing**: Standing on God's promises

- Passage from *Your Mind Matters* by John Stott:

“Faith is a reasoning trust, a trust which reckons thoughtfully and confidently upon the trustworthiness of God. For example, when David and his men returned to Ziklag, before the Philistines had killed Saul in battle, a terrible sight awaited them. During their absence the Amalekites had raided their village, burned down their houses and carried off their women and children. David and his men wept ‘until they had no more strength to weep,’ and then in their bitterness the people talked of stoning David. It was a major crisis, and David might easily have given way to despair. Instead, we read that ‘David strengthened himself in the LORD his God.’ This was true faith. He did not shut his eyes to the facts. Nor did he try to build up his own self-confidence or tell himself that he was really feeling fine. No. He remembered the Lord his God, the God of creation, the God of covenant, the God who had promised to be his God and to set him on the throne of Israel. And as David recalled the promises and the faithfulness of God, he grew strong in faith. He ‘strengthened himself in the LORD his God.’ Thus faith and thought belong together, and believing is impossible without thinking.”