

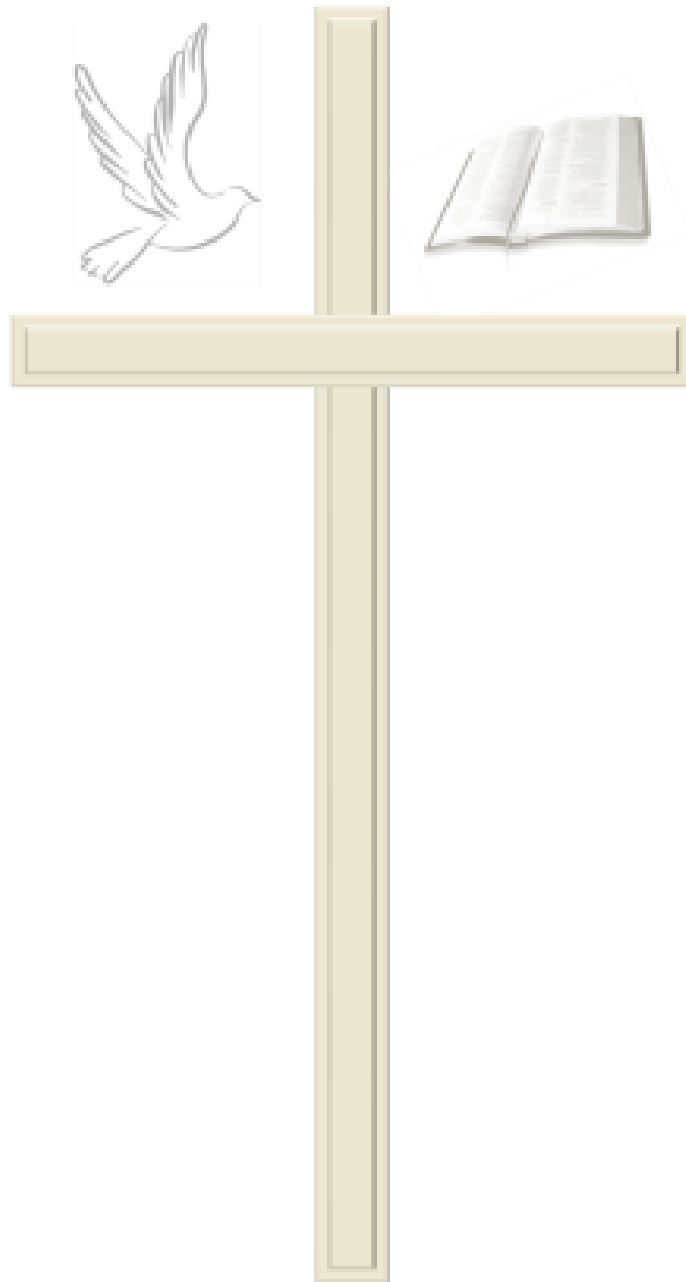
# **“Rules of Engagement III”**

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*Marriage According to the Gospel*

*The Plan*

*February 04, 2017*



**Grace Bible Church – 2017**

*“This is a great mystery: but I speak concerning Christ and the church” Ephesians 5:32  
A fivefold relationship between the man and his wife.*

## THE PLAN

Prepare thy work without, and make it fit for thyself in the field; and afterwards build thine house. Proverbs 24:27 **“The successful building of anything requires diligent planning”**

Without counsel purposes are disappointed: But in the multitude of counsellors they are established. Proverbs 15:22 **“Humility turns to honor when it seeks good advice”**

In my Father’s house are many mansions: If it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. John 14:2 **“This is a divine principle not even Christ avoided.”**

And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also. John 14:3 **“He assures us a permanent and eternal abiding”**

1. We Are Determined To Have A Wonderful Marriage! We are committed to the hard and necessary process of cultivating a home that bears the fruits of love, joy and peace. Why? Because God has mandated a blessing on our union. Genesis 1:27-28/Psalm 128:1-6

2. We Will Build Our House On Wisdom. Proverbs 9:1

### Her Seven Pillars

- TRUTHFULLNESS - Honesty that leads to a pattern of faithfulness – Psalm 51:6
- RESPECT - Mutual honor and highest regards for each other – 1 John 3:11
- RIGHTEOUSNESS - The constant practice of that which is right – James 4:17
- GRACE - The act of giving, supplying, resourcing, bestowing, and endowing – John 1:16
- MERCY - Is that act of withholding, covering and letting go, as if it did not occur – Psalm 130:4
- FORGIVENESS - Is an opportunity to recover loss, initiated by confession – Matthew 15:18
- PATIENCE - Is the reward of earnestly endeavoring and functioning in all the above waiting for the break through – Galatians 6:9

3. We Will Meet Each Other’s Needs - We were created for the purpose of supporting one another. The one most important person in my life according to God is my spouse. Therefore his/her welfare is my joyful and solemn duty to perform. Genesis 2:18/1 Corinthians 7:33-34

4. We Will Practice The Policy Of Joint Agreement - Learning the skills of communication and mutual satisfaction which protect the interest of both persons allows the giver to give and the receiver to bless in return and thus not become a taker. Whoever learns to do this well will rule the world. Nothing will be impossible to the couple who together with God enthusiastically agrees as touching anything that they so will to do. Matthew 18:19

## THE PLAN (Cont'd)

5. We Will Avoid The Love Busters - Which destroy respect, love, honor and cooperation in the institution of marriage opening the door for the four horsemen to devastate our home.

### CONTEMPT/CRITICISM/STONEWALLING/DEFENSIVENESS

- Selfishness
- Disrespect Judgment
- Angry Outburst
- Annoying Behavior
- Dishonesty
- Independent Behavior - Are all marriage busters not builders and lead to the above.

6. We Will Give Ourselves To The Diligent Reading And Application Of Scripture -  
A Bible Based, Cross Centered, And Spirit Aided Life - Will give me the ready knowledge of God so that I can be conformed to His image.

The Forgiveness of sins, which is my inheritance in Christ, will remind me of God's patience and kindness towards me so that I might show the same to my spouse. The presence and working of the Spirit of God will assure in me the sensitivity necessary to making the right decisions, and the power to act on it. [John 15:7-8](#)

7. Marriage Is The Relationship Of Extra Ordinary Care - This Holy Union, of which we endeavor to enter (or have already entered), must not be taken lightly. For we are a swearing testimony before men and God, that we shall pour our lives into this person with whom we are now engaged with Pledges, Vows, and Oath to Love, Cherish, Adore, and to give our all for their happiness here and their salvation in eternity. [Ephesians 5:22-33](#)

Thank you

For everyone who was able to join us for this four-class journey. I want to thank you for your patience and willingness to consider the materials and lessons presented in this seminar. It was truly an honor to expose you to what I have been learning cumulatively over the past 33 years of marriage.

I truly hope these lessons are tools that you will and are already using to build, enhance, correct, restore, and strengthen both your knowledge and love for God, along with becoming a better person, husband, wife, and child of God.