

NOT ASHAMED OF MARRIAGE

A Gift of Grace

God's Gift of Grace

1. It is boundless in size, significance & scale
Romans 5:12–21; 2 Cor 9:8, 11
2. It is good, it is benevolent
3. It is free with no obligations
4. It is unconditional, not dependent on our worth
5. It achieves what it was designed to do
6. It is one-way (no quid pro quo)

1. We Are Known by the Gift

God is the unseen presence that marks us and completely identifies our marriages and families as belonging to Him.

Galatians 5:22—*“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control...”*

The fruit of the Spirit is so present that it overflows to those around us.

Outline continued on backside...

August 28, 2022 — Chris Grace



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2. We Vow to Give Grace

The same grace we receive from God, we commit to give to each other, vowing before God and witnesses to extend that grace to each other.

What examples of public vows do we make?

3. Our Graced Lives Proclaim the Gift

- A grace-filled marriage is missional; it has a transcendent purpose: A work of rescue, i.e., “the surrender of the rebels.”
- The purpose of marriage is not simply the good of the couple, but a wider outward-looking, creation-serving good; love flows out from it. — Chris Ash
- We love each other so well that it literally draws people to us, wanting to know how we do it. This opens the door to sharing the Gospel, and thus we become participants in the Great Commission.

Summary

When we love God and neighbor we model God's gift of grace.

In loving them, we GO therefore into all the nations, and our marriages become “The Answer” to...

“How do you do it? How do you love your spouse so well?”

“It all began with the receiving of a gift...”