

Mythical Marriage Expectations – (But I thought...)

Genesis 27: 1-13 (also Gen 24:1-28; 61-68)

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June 29, 2008

Fast facts about fairy tale marriages

1) There are no perfect matches

- a) Fine families help
- b) Fair appearance is nice
- c) Financial abundance is desirable

2) There are no perfect mates

- a) No one can meet all our expectations
- b) No one can measure up to all our standards
- c) No one can fill all our needs

3) There are no perfect marriages (Happily Ever After?)

- a) At times it will seem like a dream
- b) At times you work like a team
- c) At times you can just be mean (All families are dysfunctional at one time or another)

Firm foundations for a lasting marriage

1) COMMUNICATION

- a) *Psalm 34:12 Whoever of you loves life and desires to see many good days,¹³ keep your tongue from evil and your lips from speaking lies.¹⁴ Turn from evil and do good; seek peace and pursue it.*

2) CONSIDERATION

- a) *1 Peter 3:7 Husbands, in the same way be considerate as you live with your wives, and treat them with respect as the weaker partner and as heirs with you of the gracious gift of life, so that nothing will hinder your prayers.*

3) COMPROMISE

- a) *1 Corinthians 13:5 It (love) is not rude, **it is not self-seeking**, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs.*
- b) *1 Corinthians 13:5 (NLT) Love **does not demand its own way**. Love is not irritable, and it keeps no record of when it has been wronged.*

4) COURTSHIP

a) **Read Proverbs 5:19; think about it then read Song of Solomon together**

5) **COMMITMENT**

a) *Malachi 2:14 (And why is the Lord Angry?) It is because the LORD is acting as the witness between you and the wife of your youth, because you have broken faith with her, though she is your partner, the wife of your marriage covenant.*

6) **CHRIST**

a) *John 15:5 "I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing.*

Discussion

Do you agree or not agree that people go into marriage with unreal expectations? Why and discuss?

Today people are convinced that beauty, brawn, and bucks are the necessary ingredients for a good match? What is wrong with that?

Going into marriage we have assumptions and expectations that our mate is going to do things like we are used to. Many times we expect them to do things like our parents. What are some good practical things (daily duties) to discuss that seldom do get discussed before a marriage commitment?

What are some values clarifications that should be talked over in depth? Examples: Children? How many? When? Will we take them to church? Will we tithe? Where do we celebrate holidays? (others)

Deceit was a definite problem in Isaac and Rebecca's marriage? What kinds of things do people face today?

We have covered most of the foundational points in earlier lessons, but what about compromise for the sake of love and unity? How should that work?

How can Christ be central and the real authority in our marriage?