

# STEVE FARRAR

Men's Leadership Ministries

## LANDMINES

### WALKING WISELY IN EVIL DAYS



#### *Session Three – “First Principles on Marriage”*

This Landmine is the landmine of not listening to God's clear instructions on marriage and the family.

Our base text, home text – Ephesians 5

Ephesians 5:15-16 – Walk wise. Be paying attention. Proverbs 16:22; 18:4 – Guard your heart.

- Follow the Lord – our shepherd
- The enemy suddenly becomes interested in you when you get serious about Christ
- It is easy to be passive in Spiritual Leadership

1 Peter 5:8 – Our enemy is like a roaring lion

Don't be unwise; be careful how you walk, not in moral stupidity, but as wise men.

#### *Review from the previous session*

- Be careful with your time, make the most of your time because the days are evil – Ephesians 5:16
  - Understanding the will of the Lord – Ephesians 5:17
    - General principles of life, not just specifics
    - *(Mentioned last week – Seek wise counsel from men you trust)*
  - God's will comes from scripture
  - Don't be controlled by something else – Ephesians 5:18
    - You can't walk carefully if you're drunk
  - Be filled with the Spirit – Ephesians 5:18
    - Walking wisely is being controlled by the Spirit of God
- A parallel passage is Colossians 3:16
- Ephesians 5:18 – Col 3:16 God controls me through the Word of God. It enables me to walk wisely. The verses are parallel.

The idea of Marriage is introduced – Ephesians 5:21-22. Be subject to one another...

Three primary differing views of marriage in our day, Physical, Evolutionary, and Biblical.

Ephesians 5:16 – We're living in evil days

- *“Some days are more evil than others.”* – Martin Lloyd Jones
- Astonishing days of rebellion to almighty God.

**1.) *Physical View* – nothing more and nothing less than the legalization of sexual urges.**

(Dr. Farrar reads from Owen Strachan's online posting about, *American Hookup*, several times. See the attachment for the entire article.)

- People used to get married because they had this physical attraction so they got married. Marriage is now old-school
- Hooking-up – It is Sexual Anarchy, Sexual Lawlessness. Without any moral order or protection. Free sex without any commitment or responsibility.
- It is all over American University campuses.
- Professing to be wise they became as fools. – Romans 1:22
- It is without any moral order or protection.
  
- *"Hook up with a hot person..."* Show me the protection here for the young woman. I thought these campuses were all about women's rights and protecting women.
- Students are being trained by a secularizing culture to *use* one another in casual encounters. They're being trained to use! To use and discard.
  
- *"Just about the worst thing you can do in the process of a hook-up is to catch feelings."* You don't want to bring any kind of feelings into this physical encounter. Is this a parody or a joke?
- This is ludicrous, this is insane.
  
- You guys who have daughters at home, you need to be connected to your girls.
- There aren't a lot of verses about how a father is to raise a daughter. I took the verses that told me how to relate to my wife and I applied those verses to my daughter.
- Your daughter, as she grows up, how is she going to handle this culture? Your job is to prepare her. If you do that you're a leader. If you don't, you're passive.
- If you treat her as valuable, she won't act cheap. You're the most important man in her life.
- 1 Peter 3:7 – Weaker vessel – women are physically weaker. As a male you have 40% more muscle mass.
  
- We treat our wives according to the principles of Christ. Likewise our daughters. Because more than likely she will grow up to be a wife.
- You fight off a hook-up culture.
- It is a new day, a new age, and it is evil.

## **2.) Evolutionary or Anthropological view of Marriage.**

- Reading from *Christian Marriage* – Martin Lloyd Jones
- A human arrangement and contrivance, a human discovery
- *Truth Overruled: The Future of Marriage and Religious Freedom*, by Ryan T. Anderson

## **3.) Biblical view of marriage**

- If you hold to this view you're not going to be popular.
- What the heck has happened so fast that has changed everything?
- 50 years ago the Biblical view of marriage was the norm.
- *"Explaining why marriage is the union of a man and a woman is like explaining why wheels are round."* – Ryan T. Anderson
- Things have changed.

## **Evolutionary or Anthropological view of Marriage (Continued)**

- Marriage has continued to evolve and now all of a sudden this "same sex marriage" has taken over.
  - a.) *Consent Based View of Marriage* (See attachment for the excerpts Dr. Farrar reads)
    - It is primarily about an *intense emotional union*.
    - Historically that is called *infatuation*.
    - Millennia of marriage was changed by an *intense emotional union*. Professing themselves to be wise they became fools.
    - The problem is that emotions come and go.
  - b.) *Comprehensive View of Marriage*
    - *"Going back to first principles."* Aristotle!? He wasn't first. You need to go to Creation!

## **Biblical view of marriage (Continued)**

### *Genesis 2*

- There is an order of creation. God is not a God of confusion; he is a God of order.
- Man was created first – Genesis 2:7
- Man was put into the garden to work – Genesis 2:15
- God said that it was not good for man to be alone – Genesis 2:18
  
- Primogenitor – rights of the firstborn son. He was to inherit, have dominion, lead, protect, provide.
- More and more families in America are Matriarchal. The buck is supposed to stop with him, not her, because he was made first.

- The Landmine we're looking at is, not listening to God's clear instruction on marriage and the family. God has given an *order of creation*.
- Helper – That same term is used of God who is our helper. She is to bring to him what he is lacking, what he needs. – Genesis 2:18
- Men and Women are equal. We are both made in the image of God. But they are different. And God likes the difference.
- The wife is to be his gifted helper. She is equal but she's different.

Show called *Heartland*, good guys, bad guys, clean, horses, roping cows, pretty good series set in the modern day. Lou "Louise" comes home to help the family through crisis in Alberta, leaves her husband running a big oil company in Vancouver. He wants the family there. She makes decisions without his input. She's upset because he's not helping her. He's not made to be the helper. He is to provide and lead. "I think, Man, I'm glad I'm not married to her."

- Ephesians 5:21 – Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.
  - There is a hierarchy to life
- Ephesians 5:22 – Wives submit to your husbands, as to the Lord.
  - What if it said, "You Offensive Coordinators submit to your Head Coach."?
- Husbands ought to be examples of submissions to their wives. In situations when you need to submit to authority, do you do it? God established hierarchy.

Movie *Sully* – The Captain was the leader, he was in charge

- Have women been abused, taken advantage of by men in authority? Absolutely.
- For Christian men, we are to model off of the Lord Jesus Christ and his love for the church. This is how Christian marriage is done.
- Ephesians 5:22 – Ultimately her submission is to the Lord.
  - Her first submission is to the Lord. If the husband is violating scripture, she is not to follow him into sin.

- Romans 14:23 – If it is not from faith, it is sin. You can't violate your conscience before the Lord.
- Submission has its limitations; you don't violate your conscience or scripture.
  
- Ephesians 5:23-29 – husbands love your wives just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her.
  - Jesus was beat up. You take the blows. Sometimes the blows come from her.
  - You are there to serve. The Son of Man didn't come to serve, but to give his life...
  - The man is to be governed by the love of Christ.
  
- The whole idea of a "husband" is to "take care".
- There used to be courses called "Husbandry", Animal Husbandry, Agricultural Husbandry...
- When this is abused is when a man takes advantage. When this is abused is when a man takes over, he's dominant or a tyrant. Some guys just take off. Some men just take, without the love of Christ.
  
- Our home, to those around, can be a picture of how Christ loved the church.
- He wants our homes to be happy homes.

When all else fails, read the directions.

**Prayer:** Help us Father to get on our knees together to work this out. Jesus help us. Let me submit to you so that I can lead well. Amen.