

THE MODERN RADICAL MARRIAGE **Honor**

SERIES PART 1

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- Know God and Make Him known.
- Ed Traut May 19th.
- Valentines dinner/ renewal of vows (Outreach), and open house for Jungle Town.
- Small Groups.
- Writing on the wall.

Open in Prayer

Around the 6-4th century Before Christ (BC). Foreign trade with Israel and Moab became a powerful prospect. There were great traditions in the Jewish people's lives and also ceremonies and festivals dedicated to bringing glory to God. Foreigners living in Moab were treated badly and the religion in Moab was deplorable. Killing babies and sacrificing them on the altars of their god, Baal.

However, not everyone was wicked and there was a man named Elimilech, who was a righteous man and had designs of enriching his heritage by doing business in Moab.

Elimilech had two sons. Mahlon and Kilion.

They were of the Jewish Tribe of Ephraim, and they were from Bethlehem in Judah.

Unfortunately, all three of the men died, and their wives were left to fend for themselves.

Naomi, chose to return to her home country, and encouraged her daughters in law to remarry in the their own country of Moab.

But Ruth would have none of it. Their lives would never be the same, Orpah eventually returned to her people but Ruth chose to go to Israel to the country of Judah.

Life went on, the times were hard and they had no income. The community stepped up to the plate and offered that they could glean at the fields and threshing floors of the local farmers. This was required by law.

Today, we are going to look at honor in the marriage

Part of religious law in those days was the prospect of marriage within a family.

If a brother died, his wife would automatically become the wife to the next man closest in the family. The reason for this was to keep the name of the family going and to have children on behalf of the dead family member. Weird huh?

But in Ruth's case, every one of the male family members had died and there were only women left in the family line. So she was not able to marry and no one wanted to marry her because she was a Moabitess. Left a widow, what was she to do?

After a while, they made a discovery, Boaz was a person highly respected in the community. Here's the kicker, he was part of Ruth and Elimilech's family tree and therefore the possible opportunity for Ruth to finally marry.

Boaz was single, rich, and good looking. An Ideal prospect.

Lets have a look at how honor opens the door to a marriage with great benefit.

Ruth 3:3-11

Amplified Bible (AMP)

3 Then Naomi her mother-in-law said to Ruth, My daughter, shall I not seek rest or a home for you, that you may prosper?

² And now is not Boaz, with whose maidens you were, our relative? See, he is winnowing barley tonight at the threshing floor.

³ **Wash** and **anoint** yourself therefore, and put on your **best clothes** and go down to the threshing floor, but do not make yourself known to the man until he has finished eating and drinking.

⁴ But when he lies down, notice the place where he lies; then go and uncover his feet and lie down. And he will tell you what to do.

⁵ And Ruth said to her, **All that you say to me I will do.**

⁶ So she went down to the threshing floor and did just as her mother-in-law had told her.

⁷ And when Boaz had eaten and drunk and his heart was merry, he went to lie down at the end of the heap of grain. Then [Ruth] came softly and uncovered his feet and lay down.

⁸ At midnight the man was startled, and he turned over, and behold, a woman lay at his feet! (NOTICE WHERE SHE LAY, not next to him, under him or on top of him)

⁹ And he said, Who are you? And she answered, I am Ruth your maidservant. Spread your wing [of protection] over your maidservant, for you are a next of kin.

¹⁰ And he said, Blessed be you of the Lord, my daughter. For you have made this last loving-kindness greater than the former, for you have not gone after young men, whether poor or rich.

¹¹ And now, my daughter, fear not. I will do for you all you require, for all my people in the city know that you are a woman of strength (worth, bravery, capability).

Ruth followed the customs of the day and also the instructions for correct behavior. As a result, she became prominent in the community, was the great Grand mother

of King David, and became a part of the lineage of Jesus the Messiah. God honored he honor!

In our world today, Honor is not something that is looked at with much favor.

Let's define honor

high respect; esteem; privilege; regard with great respect; fulfill (an obligation) or keep (an agreement); a woman's chastity or her reputation for this; a man who has distinction in behavior and life.

So having said this, lets look at the advice you ladies can get from BOAZ!

Waiting for Your Boaz:

To All the Single Ladies wanting to get married, here's a quick piece of Biblical advice: Ruth patiently waited for her mate Boaz. While waiting on your Boaz, don't settle for ANY of his relatives: brokeaz, poaz, lyinaz, cheatinaz, dumbaz, drunkaz, cheapaz, lockedupaz, goodfornuthinaz, lazyaz, or marriedaz & especially his third cousin beatinyoaz. PLEASE wait on your Boaz and make sure he respects yoaz!

I was getting my car repaired the other day, and a lady was in the waiting room on her phone. Swearing at her husband. I was appalled.

Now we may not have much in our lives, and Colleen and I have had our fair share of hard times just like you all.

But even if you're broke, stand together and don't let money cause pain for you.

If you are a cheater, stop and respect your marriage.

If addictions have take you over, find help to get it together.

Do the right thing, and live honorably. IT OPENS A DOOR TO GOD'S BLESSING!

If you're mean, stop being mean.

If you're a shouter, stop shouting. (Waking Col up in the Morning) Make a choice.

If you beat up your spouse, even verbally, find deep in your heart the words of love.

If you are mistreating your kids, honor them and become the example of Christ to them.

1 Corinthians 6:15-20

Amplified Bible (AMP)

¹⁵ Do you not see *and* know that your bodies are members (bodily parts) of Christ (the Messiah)? Am I therefore to take the parts of Christ and make [them] parts of a prostitute? Never! Never!

¹⁶ Or do you not know *and* realize that when a man joins himself to a prostitute, he becomes one body with her? The two, it is written, shall become one flesh.

¹⁷ But the person who is united to the Lord becomes one spirit with Him.

¹⁸ Shun immorality *and* all sexual looseness [flee from impurity in thought, word, or deed]. Any other sin which

a man commits is one outside the body, but he who commits sexual immorality sins against his own body.

¹⁹ Do you not know that your body is the temple (the very sanctuary) of the Holy Spirit Who lives within you, Whom you have received [as a Gift] from God? You are not your own,

²⁰ You were bought with a price [purchased with a preciousness and paid for, made His own]. So then, honor God *and* bring glory to Him in your body.

Honor, has - at its core-, the favor of God.
Honor opens the door to blessing.

Part of honor is listening.

5 Secrets Solomon used in listening to others:

1. He listened...for details.
-some were left out and others overemphasized.
2. He listened for pain.
3. He listened for envy and jealousy.
4. He listened for discrepancy and misinterpretation.
5. He listened to those not able to explain themselves thoroughly and adequately.

Solomon knew listening would reveal the cause and cure of any strife around Him (Prov. 22:10)

When your wife says, "don't you want to watch a movie". She actually means, "I want to watch a movie".

When your wife says: "I think we need to take out the trash". She is not saying WE she is saying YOU!

When your wife makes accusations, look to find the solution to the accusation. Colleen has told me that I am hard, unbending, hateful, hurtful, disrespectful, will not change. I took each one of those things and began to work on them. Looking at how I can become the ideal husband for her. I am blessed to say, that while I don't have it all together, I am getting there.

Listening is vital to the process of honor and also a successful marriage.

1 Peter 3:1-7

Amplified Bible (AMP)

³ In like manner, you married women, be submissive to your own husbands [subordinate yourselves as being secondary to and dependent on them, and adapt yourselves to them], so that even if any do not obey the Word [of God], they may be won over not by discussion but by the [godly] lives of their wives,

² When they observe the pure and modest way in which you conduct yourselves, together with your reverence [for your husband; you are to feel for him all that reverence includes: to respect, defer to, revere him—to honor, esteem, appreciate, prize, and, in the human sense, to adore him, that is, to admire, praise, be devoted to, deeply love, and enjoy your husband].

³ Let not yours be the [merely] external adorning with [elaborate] interweaving and knotting of the hair, the wearing of jewelry, or changes of clothes;

⁴ But let it be the inward adorning and beauty of the hidden person of the heart, with the incorruptible and unfading charm of a gentle and peaceful spirit, which [is

not anxious or wrought up, but] is very precious in the sight of God.

⁵ For it was thus that the pious women of old who hoped in God were [accustomed] to beautify themselves and were submissive to their husbands [adapting themselves to them as themselves secondary and dependent upon them].

⁶ It was thus that Sarah obeyed Abraham [following his guidance and acknowledging his headship over her by] calling him lord (master, leader, authority). And you are now her true daughters if you do right and let nothing terrify you [not giving way to hysterical fears or letting anxieties unnerve you].

⁷ In the same way you married men should live considerately with [your wives], with an intelligent recognition [of the marriage relation], honoring the woman as [physically] the weaker, but [realizing that you] are joint heirs of the grace (God's unmerited favor) of life, in order that your prayers may not be hindered and cut off. [Otherwise you cannot pray effectively.]

I believe that we are a great church and have a lot going for us. We have the presence of God here. We have the Life of God here, we honor each other here as greater than ourselves. We choose to humbly look to our community and see what it is that we can do to help and share and DO.

We are a church that loves people. Loves God, honors people and honors God.

We are a church of favored people, growing into everything that He desires for us.

Romans 12:10

Amplified Bible (AMP)

¹⁰ Love one another with brotherly affection [as members of one family], giving precedence and showing honor to one another.