



# **PART ONE: FRIDAY 3/6**

**Marriage:  
A Spiritual Covenant**

# **PART TWO: SUNDAY AM 3/8**

**Refreshing and Instilling  
Marital Commitment**

# Traits of a Successful Family



**Sunday - March 8 - 5:00 p.m.**

# **A MARRIAGE MADE IN HEAVEN** (Gen 2: 24-25)

Sunday 10:30 a.m. 3/15



# Keeping of Vows is a Serious Matter



- Our society has undervalued the keeping of our word.





# Keeping of Vows is a Serious Matter.



**The scriptures value it highly:**

- “Pay that which thou...” (Ecc 5: 2-7).
- The Zion dweller-- (Ps 15:4)!
- “Shall not break word” (Num. 30:2).





# Commitment and Vows in Marriage



**“COMMITMENT** ... is what transforms a promise into reality. It is the words that speak boldly of your intentions. It is the actions that speak louder than words. It is making the time when there is none, coming through time after time, year after year. Commitment is the stuff character is made of, the power to change the face of things. It is the daily triumph of integrity over skepticism.”



# Commitment and Vows in Marriage



- Couples utter heavy duty vows in elaborate weddings. Problem?
  - Treated *superficially*.
  - Do not *give forethought*.
  - Do not *personalize*.
  - Do not give proper *emphasis*.
  - Often uttered once without *reflection*.





# Commitment and Vows in Marriage



- What matters: Your current level of commitment.
  - Much more than just “*stick it out!*”
  - The most important part is *active* not *passive!!*







# Commitment and Vows in Marriage



- We need a thorough and insightful understanding of Six **Marital Promises**.
  1. Love you as long as we both shall live  
(*Kindness, sacrifice*).
  2. Cherish and honor you...  
(*Thoughtfulness*).
  3. I will be what a husband and wife owes to their spouse  
(*Meet your needs*).



# Commitment and Vows in Marriage



- We need a thorough and insightful understanding of Six **Marital Promises**.
  4. I will take you ***as you are*** ..
    - *(Acceptance)*.
  5. I will **forsake** all others ...
    - *(Be Faithful)*.
  6. I will do all these things for ***better or for worse, in sickness & health.***
    - *(Unconditionally serve you)*.




# Seal it with a kiss!

## Song 8:6-7

“Set me as a **seal** upon your heart. The fire of love stops at nothing — it sweeps everything before it. Flood waters can't drown love, torrents of rain can't put it out. Love can't be bought, love can't be sold - it's not to be found in the marketplace.”



# What is the Solution?



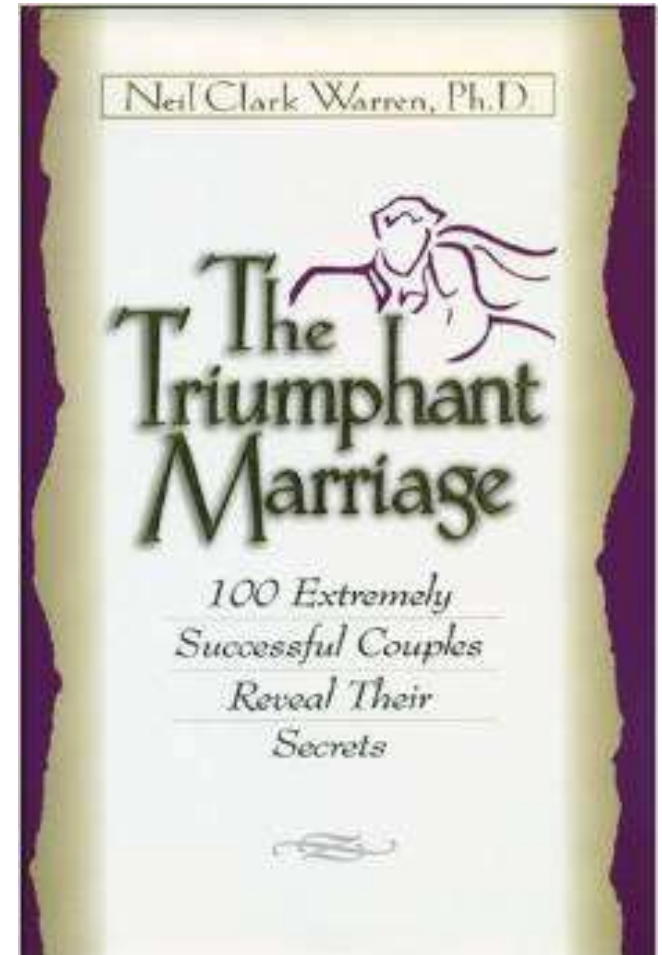
Ask yourself what  
is really important,  
and then have the  
wisdom and courage  
to build your life  
around your answer.



# A Couple Must Make Their Vows a Part of Them!



Dr. Neil Clark Warren, PhD





# Must Make our Vows a Part of Us!



- Dr. Warren Buffett suggests:
  - Rewrite your vows into a personal commitment.
  - Lay it up in your heart!
  - 2 times a week for first ten years.
  - 1 time a week for the rest of marriage.

# The Last Supper



**Leonardo Da Vinci**

**Mural Painting 1495 to 1498**





## Renewal of vows--Brent to Gail



I promise I will do everything in my power to **help you to get to heaven**; to **accept you** and to **remain loyal** to you **always**.

I promise to put **you and our marriage second only to God**; to be **open and honest with you** always as we strive for oneness.

I promise to **cherish, honor, and support you in good times and bad**; and strive to love you **selflessly, like Christ loves the church**; as I meet your **deepest needs**.

**I promise to pilot, provide, and protect you** and our family; and to do these things **unconditionally** until death do us part, so help me God!!



## **Renewal of vows-Gail to Brent**



I promise I will do everything in my power to help you get to heaven; to **accept you** and **remain loyal** to you always. I promise to put **you and our marriage second only to God**; to be **open and honest with you always** as we strive for oneness. I promise to **admire, honor, and obey you** in good times and bad; and strive to be an excellent **keeper at home** and be **sensitive to your deepest needs**. I promise to **love you** and to do all these things **unconditionally** until death do us part **so help me God!!**



# Must Rehearse Until They Are Part of Us!



- Verbalized regularly over a long period of time...takes on a tremendous power!
- Here is the transformation:
  - Do your homework- (Pg 13)!  
*“Steps to reconstruct and refresh your vows.”*



# Suggestions



- **Take your time but make a commitment to go through the work sheet.**
- **Write it out first and read to each other first until you have memorized it.**
- **Share with others once completed!**



**Seal it with a kiss!**

