



Study Guide, Episode 47: How to Strengthen Marriage & Family

Hosea 1-6, 10-14; Joel

| | |
|-------------|--|
| 00:00-03:30 | "QOTW: How do I improve my marriage? My family relationships?" |
| 03:31-13:04 | "Marriage is tough; it's okay to disagree; life trials can bring you closer" |
| 13:05-22:33 | "'I will betroth thee unto me;' The triangle of Love from God, for/from each spouse" |
| 22:34-34:56 | "Faithfulness, lovingkindness, mercy, righteousness, opposition & agency" |
| 34:57-45:51 | "Seek Him & He will heal us, 'revives us,' & causes us to 'grow as the vine'" |
| 45:52-END | "Turn toward each other instead of away; don't compete; seek 'win-win'" |

1. Take some time to reflect upon your family relationships—your marriage, or parenting, or others. Which could use some work? What are the strengths and the weaknesses right now in your marriage and family relationships?
2. What does it mean to you to be "betrothed" or "married" to the Lord? In "righteousness," "judgment," "lovingkindness," "mercy," and "faithfulness?" Reflect on this and write about your thoughts and feelings in your journal.
3. Consider: What are some things you need to take responsibility for in your marriage & relationships? Weaknesses? Sins? Ways you might need to improve? What are three things you might do this week to begin to work on these things?
4. Listen to 22:34-34:56. Which of these traits might you most need to improve upon in your marriage/relationships? What are your weaknesses, and how might Satan be trying to tempt you to turn "outward" from your marriage? What is one area you could work on to improve this, this week?
5. Ponder: Do you feel like you have an eternal commitment with God & your spouse? Do you feel like you have shared experiences with God & your spouse? Are you building a life together with your spouse AND Christ? Are you practicing whole-hearted love? Discuss these with your spouse, pray about them, and select one area to work on this week.
6. Listen to 45:52-: How might you work toward a "win-win" situation with your spouse/ family, and be more "gracious," "merciful," "slow to anger," and "show great kindness" this week, instead of comparing, competing, or needing to "be right." How might you turn toward each other during times of distress instead of away?

Resources

FB: [Like a Watered Garden Podcast Discussion Group](#)

[Like a Watered Garden Website](#)

[Come Follow Me, Old Testament, Manual](#)

[Dr. Christina Hibbert Website](#)

Email me: christina@drchristinahibbert.com

Instagram: [@likeawateredgarden](#) [@drchristinahibbert](#) Facebook: [Dr. Christina Hibbert](#)