

Harvest Bible Chapel  
Small Group Questions  
October 25, 2009

Green Grass 7 – The Fence of Unforgiveness

1. Marriage fights can be ugly but maybe you've had a fight that you laugh about now. If so, share about it with the group.

2. James 4:1 says, "*your passions are at war within you*". Do you ever feel like you have warring passions within you? Not all passions are bad especially when your spouse shares your passions. Name some things that both you and your spouse are passionate about. How do you pursue these passions together?

3. Some passions are real marriage-killers? What are they? How do they fuel fights in your marriage? The success of your marriage may depend on how you answer this question: "Are you more passionate about your marriage than your internal desires?" What passions are causing conflict in your marriage? Maybe you don't need to eliminate any of your passions but instead increase your passion for your spouse. How can you demonstrate this?

4. In Sunday's message, a video clip was played from the movie, Fireproof. What were you feeling as you watched the clip? Why? If you haven't recently watched Fireproof make a date with your spouse and watch it together.

5. Pastor Trent shared five building materials that build a great fence.

1. Pride. (Exalting Self, Believe life is about pleasuring self)
2. Have expectations.
3. Claim your "rights."
4. Fail to forgive.
5. Justify your rejection of your spouse

How tall is your fence? Which of these building materials is present in your fencing building?

6. Discuss the following statement: "*Unforgiveness is not so much related to the severity of the offense as the proximity of the offender.*"

7. Read Luke 6:32-38. Have you ever thought of these verses applying to the one you married? What motivates a person to "*love, do good, and lend*" without any expectation of return? Who is the ungrateful and evil man Jesus mentioned in v. 35? How does seeing yourself as that man help you give merciful forgiveness to those who hurt you?

8. Review the following tests of forgiveness.

1. I will not dwell on it.
2. I will not bring it up as leverage in future conflicts.
3. I will not talk to others about it.
4. I will not allow it to be a fence between us.

Based on these tests have you fully forgiven your spouse?