

KEEPING YOUR MARRIAGE OUT OF THE DITCH

May 5, 2019

Romans 3:23-24, Matthew 7:3-5, Luke 6:45, James 4:1-2

I. First Gear: In Humility, _____ Myself First – Romans 3:23-24

II. Second Gear: In Integrity, _____ Myself First – Matthew 7:3-5

III. Third Gear: Admit Circumstances Only Reveal _____ Sin
– Luke 6:45

IV. Fourth Gear: Focus on Undeserved _____, not Unmet _____
– James 4:1-2

I CAN'T AVOID THE _____ IN MARRIAGE, BUT
WITH GOD'S GRACE I CAN AVOID A _____.

Stewardship Report:

Last Week: \$4,050.00

This Month: \$0.00

Last Month: \$21,507.00

Monthly Budget: \$19,017.00



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SMALL GROUP APPLICATION QUESTIONS

Keeping my marriage on the road of grace means keeping my eyes on God, not my spouse.

1. REVIEW THE SERMON

Read Romans 3:23-24, 1 John 1:8-9 and Matthew 7:3-5. How does God view Christians in regard to sin and why? How should this inform how we see and conduct our lives? Why is it important that I deal with my sin before anyone else's? How do Proverbs 18:17 and Jeremiah 17:9 help me properly assess conflict in my relationships?

Read Luke 6:45. According to Jesus, what is the true cause of our sinful behavior and words? What other things do you sometimes try to blame instead? What does Jesus' example in Luke 23:34 teach us in this area?

Read James 4:1-2. What is the source of conflict in our lives and marriages? How can our relationship with God help mitigate this source of conflict?



2. ASSESS YOUR LIFE

On a scale of 1 to 10, how well do you manage conflict in your marriage or relationships? How would the other person in the relationship rate you on this? What is the biggest hindrance to better handling conflict in your relationship? Why?

3. APPLY THE TRUTH

Think of a recent conflict in your marriage or another relationship. How could each of the 4 Gears Pastor Micah talked about have helped you better navigate through that conflict? Which gear tends to trip you up the most in relationships and what can you do to correct that?

4. COMMIT THIS WEEK

In what areas discussed above have you failed or sinned against your spouse or someone else in your life (humility, self-inspection, blame-shifting, or demanding desires)? Pray for God's grace to cover those areas and then confess them to the other person and seek their forgiveness.

