

Video 1

There is a classic prophecy of Jesus in Isaiah:

Isaiah 9:2-6 (ESV)

²The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light... on them has light shone... ³...they rejoice before you...

*⁶For to us a child is born, to us a son is given... and his name shall be called **Wonderful Counselor**, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, **Prince of Peace**.*

Jesus didn't leave us alone:

John 16:7-15 NIV84

*⁷But I tell you the truth: It is for your good that I am going away. Unless I go away, the **Counselor** will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you...*

*¹³But when he, the **Spirit of truth**, comes, he will guide you into all truth...*

How do I get this Wonderful Counselor to fix my spouse?

I don't start with MY _____, I start with _____.

My marriage fix is mainly a _____ fix.

Fixing my marriage starts with fixing _____.

This lesson is the Key Lesson to the whole series.

Romans 7:14-25 (ESV)

¹⁴For we know that the law is spiritual, but I am of the flesh, sold under sin. ¹⁵For I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate...

¹⁸For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh. For I have the desire to do what is right, but not the ability to carry it out.

LESSON 1: My Marriage Fixed Right = Me Fixed Right

¹⁹For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I keep on doing...

*²²For I delight in the law of God, in my inner being, ²³but I see **in my members** another law **waging war** against the law of my mind and making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members.*

²⁴Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death?

I want to have an awesome marriage, but then my idiot husband comes in and says something stupid, or _____, or won't really listen to me.

I don't WANT to say those _____ things to him, but I can't help myself

Take heart wife.

Take heart husband.

You're not alone!

Paul here is getting transparent; he's talking about _____.

²⁵Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, I myself serve the law of God with my mind, but with my flesh I serve the law of sin.

Then he gives the answer, God's solution:

Romans 8:1-18 (ESV)

*⁵For those who live according to the flesh **set their minds** on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit **set their minds** on the things of the Spirit. ⁶For to set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace...*

¹¹If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you.

If you are FILLED by, controlled by THE SPIRIT, then

My Marriage Fixed Right = Me Fixed Right

Paul is saying that I need the Spirit of Jesus.

Not just as my _____,

But also, as my _____.

THAT'S THE BACKGROUND...

Some of you have gone to counseling multiple times, in multiple locations, and you got some Tips and Tools – Band-Aids.

However, Band-Aids don't help much when the wounds are so deep and your Marriage is bleeding out.

Galatians 5:16–26 (ESV)

¹⁶But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh...

¹⁹Now the works of the flesh are evident: *sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, ²⁰idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, ²¹envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these. I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.*

²²But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.

Paul lays out the secret to _____.

To not being a Spiritual _____.

*It's the Secret to not just **Surviving** but **Thriving** in your Hell-Hole Job.*

We're specifically applying it to Marriage...

It works in every relationship—every scenario that life is going to throw at you.

Here's the Main Point—

¹⁶ But I say, **walk by the Spirit**

and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh.

My Marriage Fixed Right = Me Fixed Right

How do I *NOT* carry out the desires of my _____?

- How do I DO what I know I ought to do—but end up NOT doing?
- How do I NOT DO what I know I shouldn't do—but end up continually doing?

***VS 16 But I say, walk by the Spirit,
and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh.***

If I *"live by the Spirit,"* I won't be doing those things I shouldn't be doing.

My Marriage Fixed Right = ME Fixed Right

1. I Recognize the Real War is in _____

Those are battles; not the war.

Your Marital Battles are just a by-product of the real WAR raging inside of YOU.

Many of us are losers because we don't differentiate between the real WAR INSIDE OF US and the SKIRMISHES with our Spouse!

LESSON 1: My Marriage Fixed Right = Me Fixed Right

Paul says, “Here’s what’s going on...

The main WAR is *INSIDE OF YOU*.

Galatians 5:16–17 (ESV)

*¹⁶But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the **desires of the flesh**.*

*¹⁷For **the desires of the flesh** are against the Spirit, and **the desires of the Spirit** are against the flesh, for these are **opposed** to each other, **to keep you from doing the things you want to do**.*

My Marriage Fixed Right = ME Fixed Right

1. I Recognize the Real War is in ME

2. I Fight My War with ME by _____ Power

vs ¹⁸ ***But if you are led by the Spirit...***

John 15:26 (NIV84)

*“When the **Counselor** comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who goes out from the Father, he will testify about me.*

The Spirit leads me to Jesus and enables me to walk with Jesus!

- **Worshipping** Jesus
- **Understanding** Jesus’ words
- _____ His Word to My Life
- **Empowering me** to live for Jesus

Paul goes to the heart of the issue.

LESSON 1: My Marriage Fixed Right = Me Fixed Right

That thing that makes us losers and keeps us from being winners.

VS 19 *Now the works of the flesh are evident:*

The first three deal with sexual sins!

VS 19 Now the works of the flesh are evident: **sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality**

sexual immorality – πορνεία (*porneia*)

**fornication... general sexual sins... promiscuity...*

How about Christians and *PORN*?

1. _____ **% of families** in the United States reported that pornography is a problem in their home.
2. **68% of church-going men** view porn on a regular basis.
3. **87% of Christian women have watched porn**—and **33%** watch it monthly.¹

Some marriage in here have been decimated by porn.

Because you are losing the war that is inside of you.

Which starts heated battles in your marriage!

How about _____?

**Another of the meanings of porneia –*

¹ <https://www.missionfrontiers.org/issue/article/15-mind-blowing-statistics-about-pornography-and-the-church>

Fornication: Christians who should know better sleeping together before they get married.

You mean in this area – sexual sins (*porn, affairs, lusting*) – you’re a _____?

This is what Paul is laying down here.

There is a reason why you keep failing, because you are fighting the war—wrong!

This is a snapshot of some of your homes (with the doors closed) this week.

vs 20 **enmity**, = *a state of deep-seated ill will. *(by extension – unforgiveness)*

strife, *quarrelling, fighting,*
jealousy,
fits of anger, *fits of explosive rage*
rivalries,
dissensions,
divisions,

²¹envy,
drunkenness,
orgies, *wild parties, binge parties,*
and things like these.

Here’s what Paul is hollering at the Galatians and at us.

Here’s the Secret that Paul discovered and is revealing to you today;

I’m DOING *ME* WRONG

The main war is raging inside of _____!

LESSON 1: My Marriage Fixed Right = Me Fixed Right

I've got to have God's Conquest of ME
Before I can have My Peace with My Spouse

Instead of Me relying on my own strength (my "flesh") making me constantly a loser, God, producing spiritual growth ("fruit") IN ME – makes me a _____.

²² *But the fruit of the Spirit is*

What God's Spirit produces / grows in ME.

love, - ἀγάπη (*agape*)

He's not talking about some LOVEY-DOVEY FEELING.

He's talking about a LOVE THAT ACTS!

The fruit of the Spirit is love, **joy**,

What would you give to have _____ with your spouse again?

If you surrender yourself to this Wonderful Marriage Counselor – *the Spirit of Jesus* – here's some more Fruit that will grow in your Marriage.

peace,

patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ **gentleness,**

and self-control.

This is not _____.

This is SUPERNATURAL!

LESSON 1: My Marriage Fixed Right = Me Fixed Right

Without God's Spirit in control of me—I'll produce the WORKS OF THE FLESH!

WITH GOD'S SPIRIT FILLING ME – HE'LL PRODUCE THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

It's not the Fruit of the GOOD _____

It's not the Fruit of the WONDERFUL _____

It's the FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT!

My MARRIAGE Fixed Right = ME Fixed right

1. I Recognize the Real War is in ME
2. I Fight My War with ME by _____ Power

Galatians 5:16–17 (ESV)

¹⁶*But I say, **walk by the Spirit**, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh.*

Ephesians 5:17–18 (ESV)

¹⁷*Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. ¹⁸And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery, **but be filled with the Spirit**,*

This is the key!

This is the power!

This is the victory!

HOW do I get “filled with his Spirit?”

1. I Recognize the Real War is in ME

Daily--Present every part of your Body to Jesus as an act of worship.

LESSON 1: My Marriage Fixed Right = Me Fixed Right

Romans 12:1-2 look this verse up and memorize it!

Daily—ask Him for the filling of His Holy Spirit

Luke 11:9–13 (ESV)

*⁹And I tell you, **ask**, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you...*

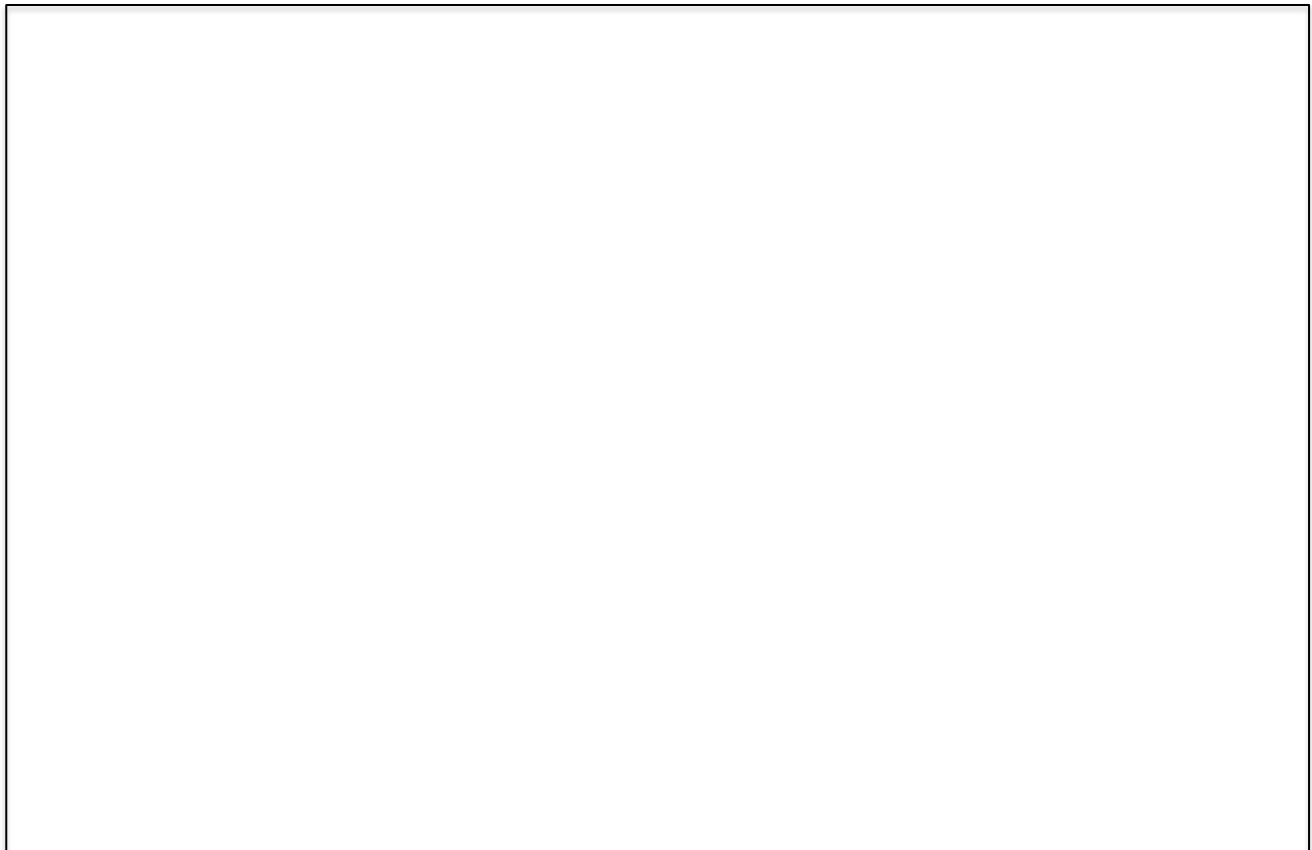
*¹³If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father **give the Holy Spirit** to those who ask him!"*

Daily—eat what He’s serving up

Colossians 3 – here’s what happens when you are filled with the Spirit.

Galatians 5 – let the Word of the Lord dwell in you richly.

What can you do immediately to “fix” your marriage?

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin black border, intended for a person to write their response to the question above it.