

A tree with green leaves and a brown trunk is shown with its roots growing out of an open book. The book is open to two pages, and the tree's trunk is positioned between the pages. The background is a light, warm yellow.

*Bringing the Bible to Life*  
Biblical Counseling Workshops

**Bringing the Roles Together**

**Track V.4**

**Kent Kloter**

**Associate Pastor of Biblical  
Counseling**



# Purpose of Marriage-One-Flesh Union

Marriage is designed by God for mutual companionship, to **COMPLEMENT** each other in a one-flesh-**UNITY** in “Chosen-servanthood” to bear the “**Image-of-God**”, [i.e., to **GLORIFY GOD** by “Giving others a ‘right-opinion’ of God”.

Created male **AND** female

Unity—Diversity—Community

Equality—Authority—Submission

Independence-Dependence

**Trinity**

**God is high, holy, separate; man is sinful, alienated**

**God pursued man, spouses are to pursue each other**



# Purpose of Marriage – Covenant- Companionship

**Spiritual** – theologically unified

**Physical** – sexual oneness, intimacy

**Emotional** – seeking emotional fulfillment in your spouse, not another person.

**Relational** – companionship, friendship

**Mental** – thinking of your spouse biblically, ... your primary soul-mate

**Resulting in our good**, (security, satisfaction, contentment) and **GOD'S GLORY**



# Male & Female “Rank” & Roles

HUSBAND	WIFE
Leader	Submissive
Lover	Respect
Learner	Helper
Protector	Lover (Titus 2 commands the wife <i>to learn to love your husband</i> )
Provider	

*“The Curse brought a distortion of previous roles,  
not the introduction of new ones”* Wayne Grudem

It impossible to fulfill the purpose of marriage  
Without embracing these realities and “melding” together



# Barriers to One-Flesh Unions

**World's view of marriage**

**World's View of Gender** - neutral, a product of evolution, therefore there is no absolutes regarding "rank"

**The World** considers biblical, female roles as demeaning

**Assumption of mutual submission** The Bible doesn't teach mutual submission between husband & wife. There is to be deference in preference, but not mutual submission.



Magnifies  
Personal  
Abilities  
Wisdom

# The World's Man

Magnifies  
Personal  
Weaknesses  
Inabilities

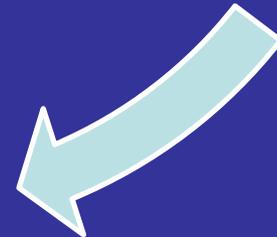
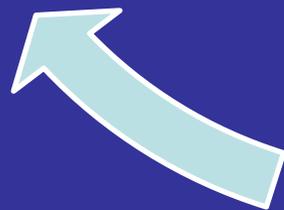
Strength

Aggressive



Self-gratification

Toughness



Prestige

# Discontentment

- Self-confidence
- Fear of Man, outcomes
- Love of the world
- Prestige
- Praise
- Self-righteous
- Idolatry

- Timidity
- Fear of man, outcomes
- Doubting God
- Escape, Numbing
- Self-protection
- Idolatry



Magnifies  
Personal  
Abilities  
Wisdom

# The World's Woman

Magnifies  
Personal  
Weaknesses  
Inabilities

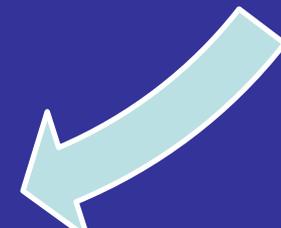
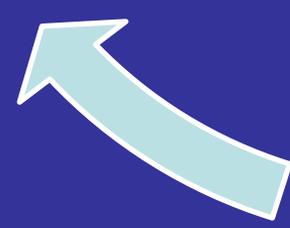
Appearance

Relationships



Career

Emotions



Happiness

## Discontentment

- Self-confidence
- Fear of Man, outcomes
- Love of the world
- Prestige
- Praise
- Self-righteous
- Idolatry

- Timidity
- Fear of man, outcomes
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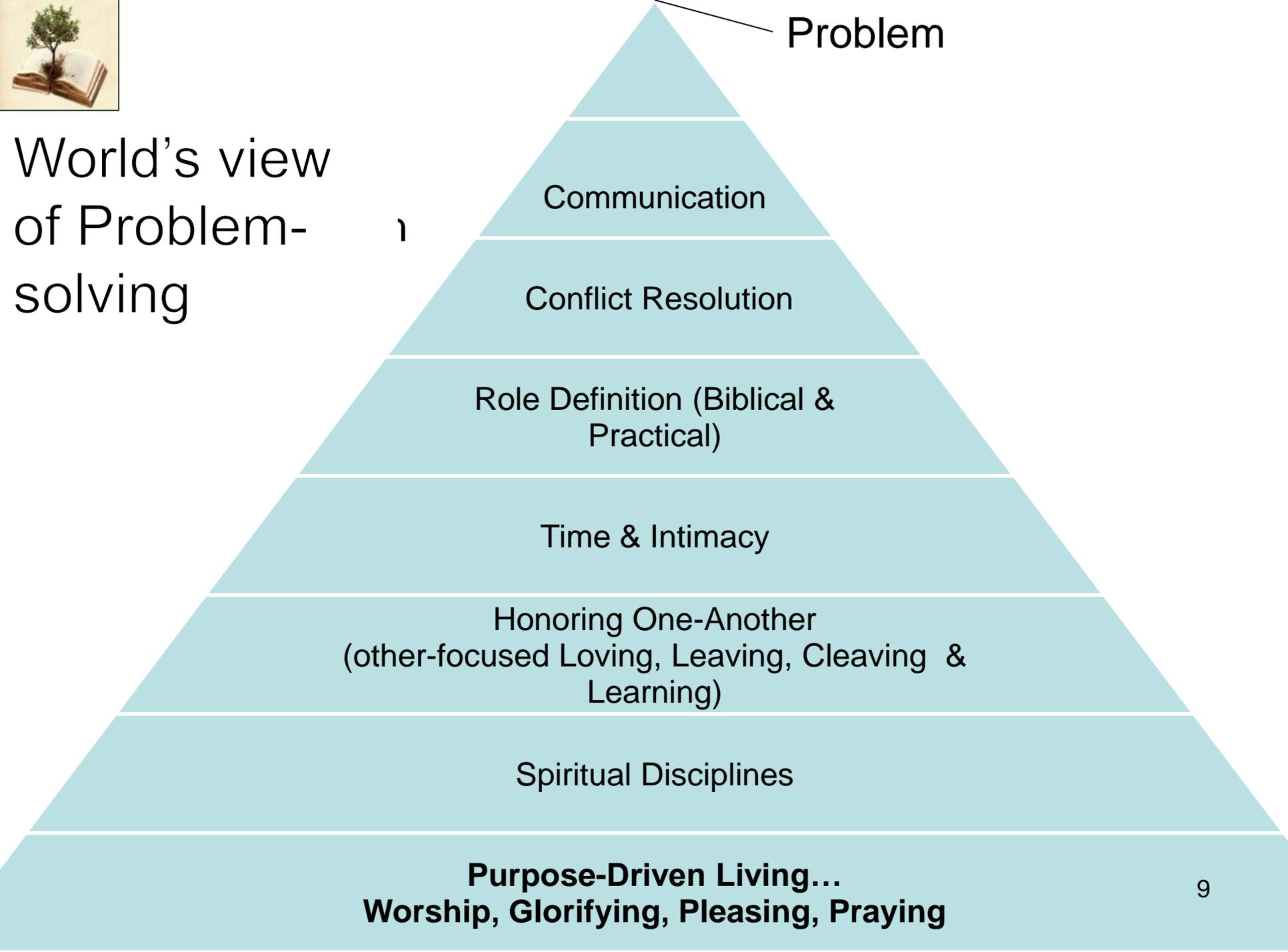


# Barriers to One-Flesh Union

<b>HUSBAND - PRIDE</b>	<b>WIFE - PRIDE</b>
False beliefs, insincere faith	False beliefs, insincere faith
Failure to surrender to Christ as LORD	Failure to surrender to Christ as LORD
Conflict between professed faith and functional faith	Conflict between professed faith and functional faith
Seeking worldly manhood	Seeking worldly womanhood
Passivity	Aggressiveness
Willful ignorance	Spiritual knowledge
Irresponsibility	Impatience towards husband's irresponsibility
Sinful responses	Sinful responses
Bondage to sin, unconfessed sins	Bondage to sin, unconfessed sins
Poor Priorities	Poor Priorities



# World's view of Problem- solving





# Bringing the Roles Together

It's not possible for 2 radically different people from different cultures to attain one-flesh harmony!

You have more in common with your spouse than with Christ.

God pursued you, even though you are unlike himself!

God revealed Himself without reservation to you, even though you were unable to understand his language!

Through the GOSPEL, God “pulled out all the stops” in order to enable you to hear Him, understand Him, receive Him, respond to HIM and enjoy complete intimacy with Him.

**Marriage is a calling to demonstrate this GOSPEL to the world!**



through the  
*Spirit, by*  
*faith*

Gal. 5:5

# Biblical Manhood

*faith*  
*working*  
*through love.*

Gal. 5:6

Worship God
Glorify God
Please God
Prayer
Growing
Self-sacrifice
Serving

Character

Meekness

Confidence in H.S.'s	Commitment to God's
Power	Word
Presence	Wisdom
Plan	Way

Love

Compassion

Hope
Courage
Thanks-giving
Confession
God is near
Fruit of the Spirit

Humility

**Growing**



through the  
*Spirit, by*  
*faith*

Gal. 5:5

# The Godly Woman

*faith*  
*working*  
*through love.*

Gal. 5:6

Character

Meekness

Love

Compassion

Humility

## Jesus Christ's Perfection

Confidence  
in H.S.

H.S.  
Strength

God's  
Agendas

Glorify God

Praise God

Self-  
Sacrifice

Please God

Perfect Pattern

Perfect Spiritual Leader

Perfect High Priest

Perfect Mediator

Perfect Fulfillment of Purpose

Perfect Sacrifice

Perfect Obedience

Hope

Courage

Joy

Peace

Long-  
suffering

Thanks-  
giving

God is  
Near/

Refuge



# The Big Picture

**Loving God and your spouse MORE than self**

**Leaving *his father and his mother***

**your culture & its definitions/expectations**

[and your own agendas and expectations, laying down your life]

**Cleaving *hold fast to your spouse***

to your new life-companion

creating a new culture/household & agenda

***A new life in Christ via the GOSPEL***



# Leaving and Cleaving

(Gen. 2:23-24)

**The Parent-Child relationship is permanent, but the dynamics of their relationships **CHANGE** with a new marriage-covenant which *creates an other autonomous household*.**

The marriage bond is **permanent**, the parent-child-authority-submission relationship is **TEMPORARY**.

When a child reaches adulthood and marries, that new husband-wife relationship is their **PRIMARY** earthly **relationship and is SUPERIOR** to the relationship with their parents.



# Leaving and Cleaving involves the Whole Person

**Leaving** (Gen. 2:24 *azab*) means to loosen,  
separate and abandon, **forsake...all others**

Spiritually – theologically unified

Physically – sexual oneness, intimacy

Emotionally – seeking emotional fulfillment in your  
spouse, not in another person of the opposite sex.

Relationally – primary friendship

Mentally – one-minded with your spouse

Resulting in **your good**, (security, satisfaction,  
contentment) and **GOD'S GLORY** – equipping you to  
**love God more and to understand God's love better**



# Cleaving

Cleaving (Gen. 2:24 *dabag*) means to ***pursue hard***,  
(like continual pressing) ***a firmly joined state.***”

*Permanent, abiding, like super-glue...an intricate weaving  
of two lives into one...but some men want to be the  
one...*” (S. Scott).

Pursuing someone who is not like you and who  
may even be running from you.

Mutually dependent, yet still individuals able to  
function without crippling dependence on the  
other.



# Leaving and Cleaving MUTUAL PURSUIT

Of the purpose of Life - Growing in the  
knowledge of God, worshipping God alone

Of personal sanctification - pleasing God by  
becoming more like Christ

Killing pride, cultivating Christlikeness

Killing self-love, cultivating love for God and  
others

Love – the fruit of the spirit



# Leaving and Cleaving MUTUAL PURSUIT

Conflicts with parents should be solved together

The husband should protect his wife from **both sets of** parents.

The couple should present a united front to the parents.

If/when the adult-child seeks parental advice,  
BOTH husband and wife should be a part of the conversation.



# Leaving, Cleaving, Killing, Cultivating, Communicating, Forgiving, Loving

God depends on the perfect life,  
the sacrificial death & resurrection  
of Jesus Christ for His relationship  
with me. The GOSPEL is always  
greater than my sins against God

I am not identified by my sins or performance  
My sins never separate me from God  
God's love never keeps records of my sins  
Jesus' sacrifice took my punishment

I remember how the GOSPEL-  
mercy has paid the price and  
erased my guilt, therefore I am  
willing to be a vessel of mercy to  
this person who is continually  
sinning against me.



# Marriage puts God & the Gospel on Display

By loving, without regard to the other's sins

By granting forgiveness, even when he/she doesn't deserve it

By giving grace when you're being sinned against

By being merciful when you are deeply hurting

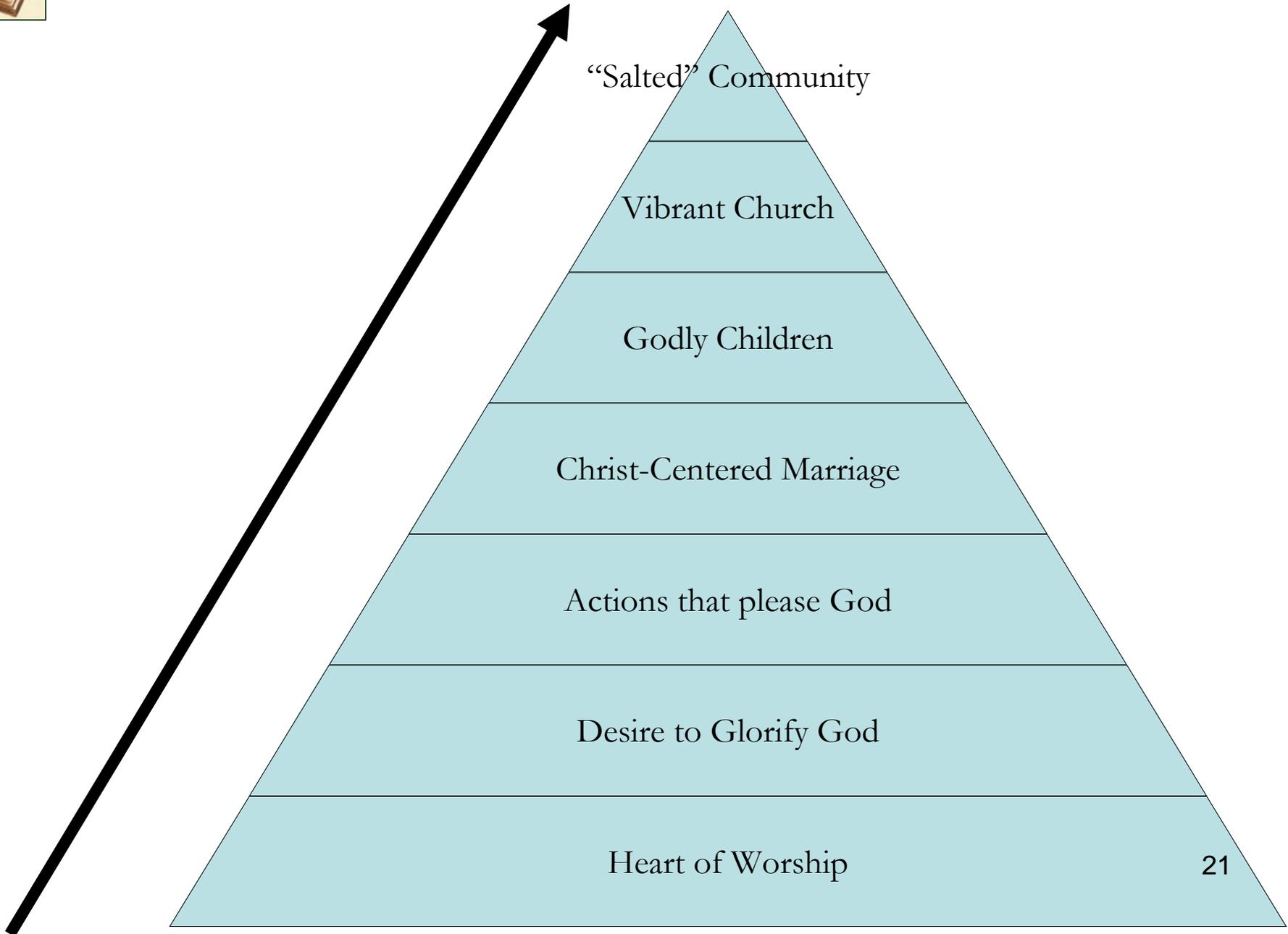
By pursuing oneness with someone unlike ourselves

By offering oneself for the good of your spouse

By showing compassion when you don't feel like it



# The Blessings of a Godly Marriage





## Homework

- Summarize today's session

## Next Classes

Track V.5 *Communication* – Kent Kloter

Track V.6 *Conflict Resolution* – Neil Gerber

Track V.7 *Conference Table* – Kent Kloter

Track V.8 *Biblical Sexuality* – Kent Kloter



## *Going Deeper*

*When Sinners Say I Do, Dave Harvey*  
*Exemplary Husband*  
*Excellent Wife,*  
*Sacred Marriage, Gary Thomas*  
*What Did you Expect?*  
*What to do When*  
*From Pride to Humility, Stuart Scott*  
*Repentance, the Turning Point in Counseling,*  
*Wayne Mack (audio message)*



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**January 30, 2012**

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