

A tree with green leaves and a brown trunk is shown with its roots growing out of an open book. The book is open, showing its pages, and is positioned at the bottom of the frame. The tree's trunk is in the center, and its branches spread out to the left and right. The roots are visible at the base of the trunk, extending into the pages of the book. The background is a light, warm yellow color.

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

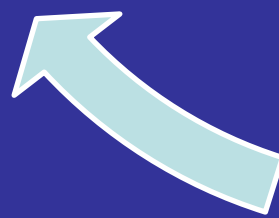
Strength

Aggressive



Self-gratification

Toughness



Prestige

Discontentment

Self-confidence

Fear of Man, outcomes

Love of the world

Prestige

Praise

Self-righteous

Idolatry

Defined by my Past

Driven to create/prevent

Desires of the Heart

Timidity

Fear of man, outcomes

Doubting God

Escape, Numbing

Self-protection

Idolatry



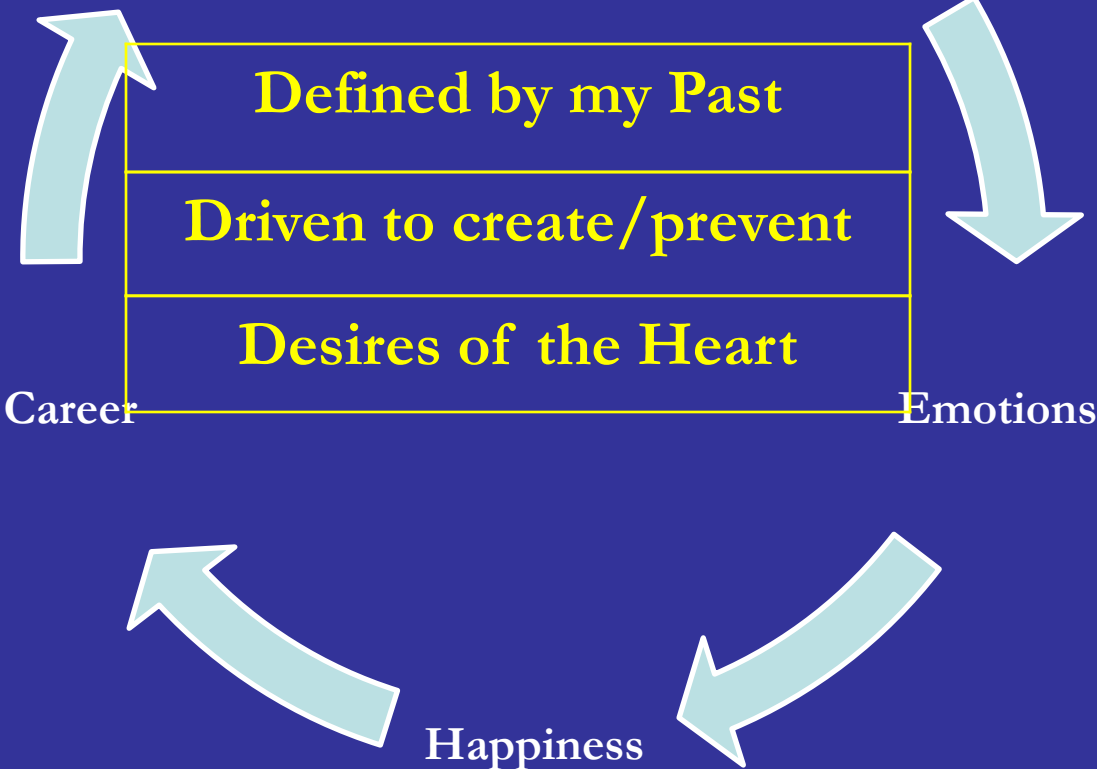
**Magnifies
Personal
Abilities
Wisdom**

The World's Woman

**Magnifies
Personal
Weaknesses
Inabilities**

Appearance

Relationships



**Self-
confidence**

**Fear of
Man, out-
comes**

**Love of
the world**

Prestige

Praise

**Self-
righteous**

Idolatry

Timidity

**Fear of
man, out-
comes**

**Doubting
God**

**Escape,
Numbing**

**Self-
protection**

Idolatry

Discontentment

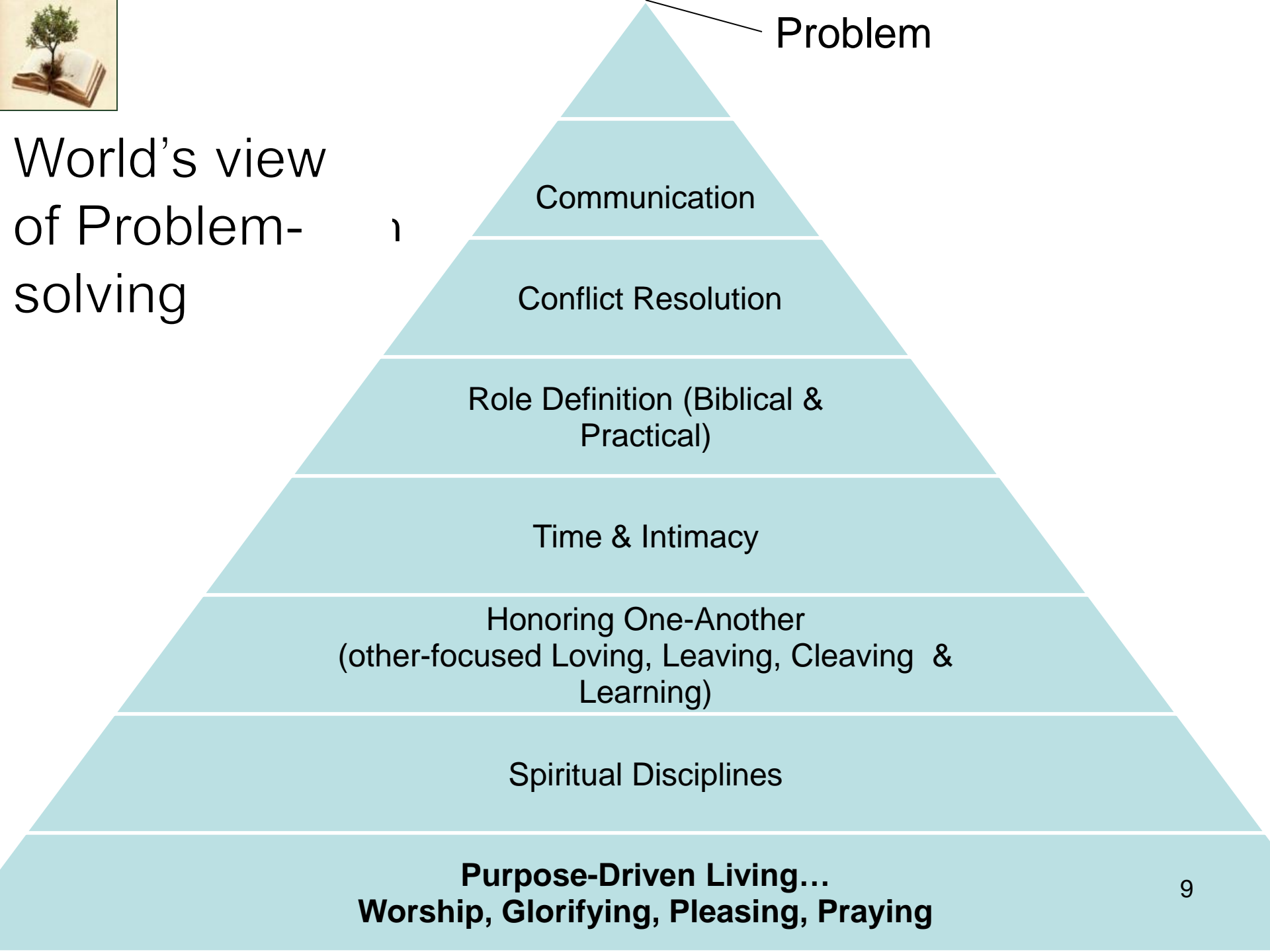


Barriers to One-Flesh Union

HUSBAND - PRIDE	WIFE - PRIDE
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
Confes- sion
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

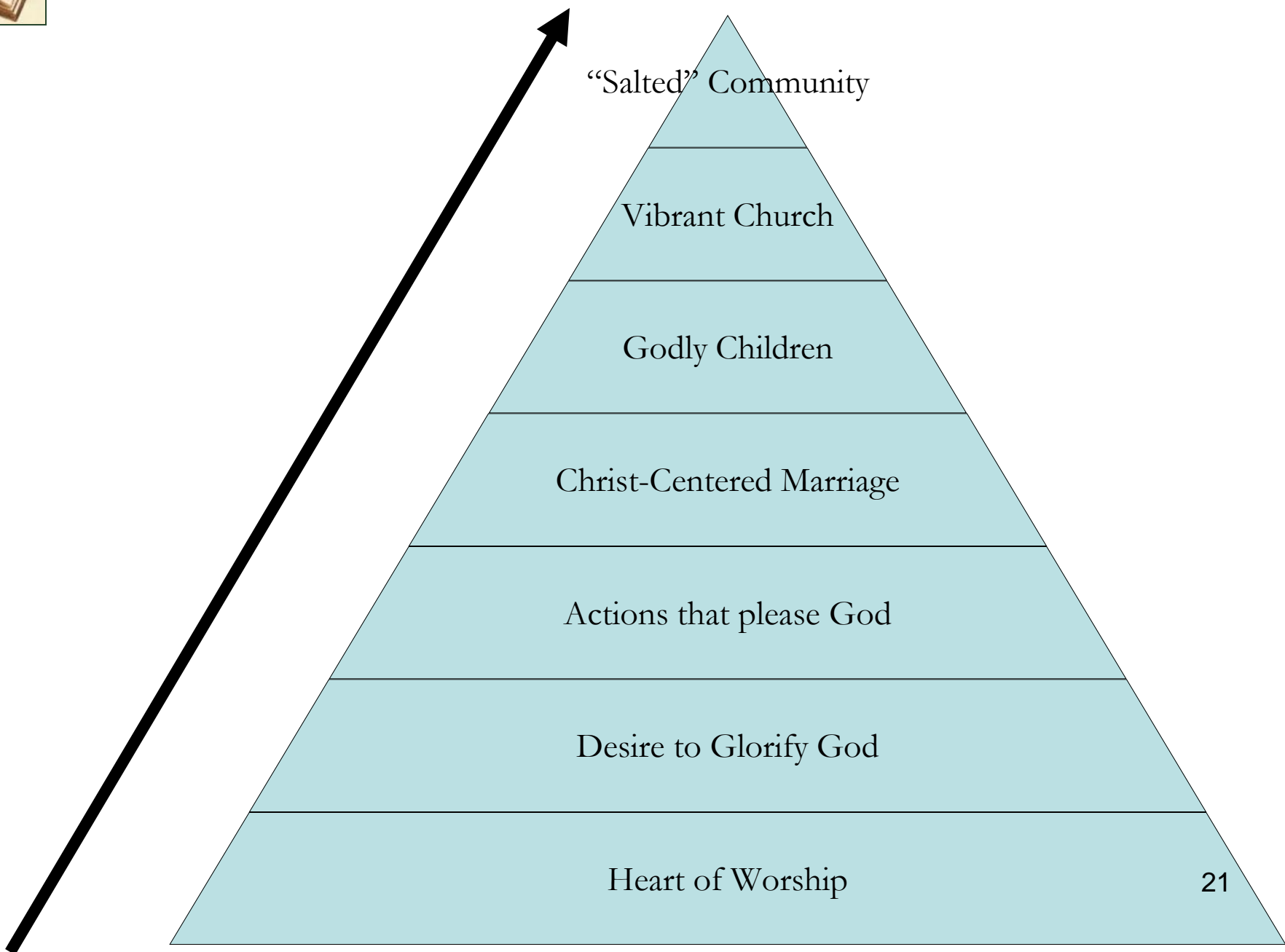
By pursuing oneness with someone unlike ourselves

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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