



Christian Seeking Identity

May 2018

Greetings Family & Friends,

Well the beauty of spring is displaying its splendor (at least in some parts of the country) and summer is on its way. It has been a very busy past five months for us as we just finished hosting our last two CBC mission teams to Costa Rica. Each team was comprised of two separate CBC schools yet they functioned as ONE working together, letting the Holy Spirit of God flow through them as they ministered to the people of Costa Rica. The teams were both used by the Lord for salvations, and healings and most of all to display to the people the Love of God. The teams experienced the power of the love of God as it flowed through them to perfect strangers and it touched their own hearts and they were no longer strangers. One student commented on how they had never hugged so many people before. Another commented on how this is not what they envisioned when they were told that the team was going to be doing street evangelism. She then added that she was very surprised but very much blessed. It is interesting how we can see things from an opposite view but in the end feel very attracted to what we once opposed. This is the subject of Suzan's teaching this month "Opposites Attract". We certainly trust that it will be an inspiration and a blessing for you in.

Thank you again for your faithful prayers and support. We pray God's continued Blessing over you and your entire families.

God Bless you!

Your friends,

Mickey & Suzan

Opposites Attract

In Ephesians chapter 5:22-33, the relationship that a husband has with his wife is compared to the relationship that the church has with Jesus Christ. Two opposite parts come together to make one.

When I began to study the opposites more in depth, I discovered something that has had a huge impact on the quality of the relationship that I have with both my husband, and with God. First of all, I want to apply what I have discovered to marriage, and then I want to take that same concept and apply it to our spiritual relationship with God.

We are different! What a woman craves is not the same thing that a man craves. A woman needs to both know and feel that her husband loves and cherishes her. She needs to feel desirable. Ephesians 5:24-25, 28.

But that is not the thing that gives a man his sense of value! A man needs to feel like he is a man! He needs to know that his wife believes in

him and in his ability to provide for her. He needs her respect! Ephesians 5:23-24

When we fail to recognize these basic differences, it causes trouble in the relationship! Have you as a woman ever experienced a moment when your husband was obviously upset with you and you immediately concluded that you must not have been doing enough to prove to him that you loved him? I have experienced that and most generally the problem was not what I thought it was at all because my supposition was based on what satisfies me as a woman and not on what brings fulfillment to him as a man.

Let me give you an example. On one occasion, my husband and I went out to buy some groceries. We had to take a taxi home. Upon our arrival, the driver popped the trunk and my husband got out to pay the driver. I, being a helpful wife decided to carry the groceries. I loaded myself up with all I could carry and when I got a few feet in front of the cab, I hear my husband's irritated voice, "Do you think you have to carry them all?"

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Now I was trying to help him. How dare him challenge my well-intended efforts! I dropped all of the bags and stomped into the house. What just happened? I challenged his manhood!

What my act of love meant to him was that I did not need his help. You see, there was only one small bag left for him to carry. Not only that, but the taxi driver was watching the whole thing and in my husband's eyes, he was not given the opportunity to play the gentleman's part and it made him look bad!

A husband needs affirmation that he is a good provider, and a woman needs to feel beautiful, well cared for and loved.

If a man's need for affirmation is not met, sooner or later he will react in a way that negatively affects his wife's need to feel loved. He reacts, and then she reacts!

Both will try to protect themselves when their basic needs are not satisfied. Men typically become workaholics, they become controlling and angry or they just give up trying to please their wives because what they do never seems to be enough!

Women, on the other hand, tend to become bossy, manipulative and dominant or they gravitate to the opposite end of the pole and become needy and co-dependent. The trouble is, unless we learn to recognize the root of the problem, we become involved in a vicious cycle where neither the husband nor the wife feels satisfied because they are deprived of what they need the most.

Ephesians 5:33 Nevertheless let every one of you in particular so love his wife even as himself; and the wife see that she reverence her husband.

Now if we transfer what we have just discovered to the marriage relationship that we have with Jesus, it becomes a real eye opener!

The thing that the church (or the bride) needs more from their heavenly relationship than anything else is to know how much God loves them. Christians everywhere seem to have a hard time feeling like God really loves them. And why do you suppose that is? It is because they feel like they must do things to prove to God how much they love Him before He can love them. They try to manipulate God by works! And what they do never seems to be enough.

But guess what! That is not what it takes to satisfy God. That is not what brings Him pleasure! God did not create us to carry heavy loads. That is his job.

God comes to his sense of fulfillment when we pay him reverence by validating him as a good provider. He delights in watching us blossom as we simply bask in His love, and that in turn makes him look good! Amen!



CBC Dallas & CBC Houston Teams



(CBC WashDC & CBC Baltimore Teams)