

# THE MARRIAGE REF

PART 4: BUILDING A STRONG DEFENSE

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2016

MARRIAGE CONFLICT (Typically created in one of two ways.)

1. Couples \_\_\_\_\_ to make each other \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Couples \_\_\_\_\_ each other \_\_\_\_\_.

COMMON REASONS WHY AFFAIRS HAPPEN

1. Women tend to have affairs due to lack of \_\_\_\_\_.
  - *"He doesn't show me that he loves me."*
2. Men tend to have affairs due to a lack of \_\_\_\_\_.
  - *"She doesn't show me that she wants me."*
3. Low \_\_\_\_\_.
  - *"Am I good enough?"*
4. Misplaced \_\_\_\_\_.
  - *"They're just a friend."*
5. Failure to set and implement personal \_\_\_\_\_.
  - *"They're just a close friend."*
6. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - *"I need this."*

7. Revenge and \_\_\_\_\_.

- “You deserve this.”

8. \_\_\_\_\_

- “I deserve this.”

## SOLUTION: A STRONG DEFENSIVE LINE

1. Defend your \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

James 1:19 Understand this, my dear brothers and sisters: You must all be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to get angry.

Mark 4:9 Then he said, “Anyone with ears to hear should listen and understand.”

Job 31:1 I made a covenant with my eyes not to look with lust at a young woman.

Matthew 5:27-29 “You have heard the commandment that says, ‘You must not commit adultery.’ 28 But I say, anyone who even looks at a woman with lust has already committed adultery with her in his heart. 29 So if your eye—even your good eye—causes you to lust, gouge it out and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to be thrown into hell.”

2. Live \_\_\_\_\_.

Romans 13:13-14 Because we belong to the day, we must live decent lives for all to see. Don’t participate in the darkness of wild parties and drunkenness, or in sexual promiscuity and immoral living, or in quarreling and jealousy. 14 Instead, clothe yourself with the presence of the Lord Jesus Christ. And don’t let yourself think about ways to indulge your evil desires.

John 8:32 And you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.

3. Protect your \_\_\_\_\_ life.

Proverbs 4:23 Guard your heart above all else, for it determines the course of your life.

Philippians 4:8-9 And now, dear brothers and sisters, one final thing. Fix your thoughts on what is true, and honorable, and right, and pure, and lovely, and admirable. Think about things that are excellent and worthy of praise. 9 Keep putting into practice all you learned and

received from me—everything you heard from me and saw me doing. Then the God of peace will be with you.

4. Guard your \_\_\_\_\_.

1 Thessalonians 5:21-23 ...but test everything that is said. Hold on to what is good. 22 Stay away from every kind of evil. 23 Now may the God of peace make you holy in every way, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless until our Lord Jesus Christ comes again.

Proverbs 5:8 Stay away from her! Don’t go near the door of her house!

5. Defend your \_\_\_\_\_.

Proverbs 18:21 (MSG) Words kill, words give life; they’re either poison or fruit—you choose.

James 3:2-10

Ephesians 4:29 Don’t use foul or abusive language. Let everything you say be good and helpful, so that your words will be an encouragement to those who hear them.

6. Block the \_\_\_\_\_.

Philippians 3:13-14 No, dear brothers and sisters, I have not achieved it, but I focus on this one thing: Forgetting the past and looking forward to what lies ahead, 14 I press on to reach the end of the race and receive the heavenly prize for which God, through Christ Jesus, is calling us.

7. Keep your spouse’s \_\_\_\_\_ full.

Malachi 2:15 Didn’t the Lord make you one with your wife? ...So guard your heart; remain loyal to the wife of your youth.

*\*All scriptures are from the NLT translation unless otherwise noted.*