

**Faulkner University**  
A Christian University

**Marriage & The Family**  
BI 2310

[www.escoc.net/faulkner](http://www.escoc.net/faulkner)

No Class Next Monday

Final Exam  
January 22, 2007  
*Two Weeks From Tonight*

### Final Exam

- 100 questions
  - Multiple choice
  - Short answer / Fill in the blank
  - Matching
- Everything from the midterm through tonight.
- Responsible for lectures, slides and the textbook.

**Monday, January 8, 2007**

- The Big 5
  - Money
  - In-Laws
  - Children
  - Religion
  - Sex (infidelity)

Religion

For our purposes, religion is any faith based in God.

Religion

- Religion is critical in a marriage because:
  1. It holds us accountable
  2. It sets a high standard of conduct or behavior
  3. It teaches traits or characteristics that support and nurture the marriage relationship
  4. It offers an external source of strength upon which one may call during stress/distress

Religion

- Research shows:
  1. When both partners have a faith, marital stability is increased.\*
  2. When both partners share the same marital stability is enhanced even more.

\*Differing faiths may, in some cases, bring stress to the marriage but generally some faith is better than no faith.

Religion

Why does faith matter?

1. Most faiths teach a final judgment based upon our conduct in life, therefore we are inclined to avoid disobedience.
2. Most faiths set certain standards for relationships. These often lofty goals provide something to work toward.

Religion

Why does faith matter?

3. Coupled with those goals are techniques taught to attain them.
4. Typically, most faiths teach some sort of reliance on prayer or spiritual guidance which can relieve stress.

Religion

Why does faith matter?

- SHS list several reasons
  - A Spiritual Faith (a common purpose)
  - Be Still (depend on God)
  - Love (Biblical love)
  - Patience
  - Faithfulness (determination, perseverance)
  - Peace
  - Forgiveness
  - Create Joy (happiness)

Religion  
Biblical Love

- Types of love:
  - “eros” – sensual intoxication
  - “phila” – a warmth, closeness, brotherly love
  - “agape” – sacrificial, a decision, a commitment.

Religion  
Biblical Love

- Patient
- Kind
- Seeks Truth
- Forbears
- Trusting
- Hoping
- Endures
- Not Jealous
- Not bragging
- Not arrogant
- Not unbecoming
- Not self-seeking
- Not grudging
- Not provoked
- Not unrighteous

Religion

Why does faith matter?

- SHS list several reasons
  - A Spiritual Faith (a common purpose)
  - Be Still (depend on God)
  - Love (Biblical love)
  - Patience
  - Faithfulness (determination, perseverance)
  - Peace
  - Forgiveness
  - Create Joy (happiness)

Religion  
Faithfulness

- Faithfulness
  - Both a spiritual and an external, personal quality.
  - Faithfulness is:
    - Determination to stay the course
    - Decision to persevere
    - Commitment
  - True faithfulness to one's creator will bring faithfulness to all other areas of life.

Religion  
Faithfulness

*“Most of the marriages that fail could have succeeded if the couple had shown the determination to work out problems or even to be willing to address their problems.”*

SHS, 159

Religion

Why does faith matter?

- SHS list several reasons
  - A Spiritual Faith (a common purpose)
  - Be Still (depend on God)
  - Love (Biblical love)
  - Patience
  - Faithfulness (determination, perseverance)
  - Peace
  - Forgiveness
  - Create Joy (happiness)

Religion  
Forgiveness

- Forgiveness may be the most difficult trait to develop.
- However, forgiveness may salvage your marriage.
- Forgiveness is learned
  - One cannot expect to forgive major wrongs if they cannot forgive the minor ones.
  - Practice on the small things and be prepared for the major ones.

Sex

Sexuality involves two components: physical & spiritual.

*"Our sexuality...includes our emotions, our social relationships, our values, ethics, morals and spiritual faith. It also involves our intellect and our decision-making and problem-solving skills."*

SHS, 136

Sex

- Sexuality and the physical, sexual act, are gifts of God.
  - Genesis 1:28 *"be fruitful and multiply..."*
  - Proverbs 5:18-19
  - Ephesians 5:31-32
  - 1 Corinthians 7:3-5
  - Hebrews 13:4
- Because God created us *"male and female"* and because he gave us the sexual act, God has every right to regulate that gift.

Sex

- What does the Bible teach about Sex?
  - Sexual relations are reserved for a man & a woman.
  - Sexual relations are only to be enjoyed within marriage
  - It is wrong to seek fulfillment outside of marriage
  - Sex must never be a tool or used to bribe/control
  - God's plan: One man, one woman, for life

Sex  
Hazards and Difficulties

- Differing sexual appetites
- A negative relationship
- Boredom
- Anxiety & Depression
- Fatigue
- Physical problems
- Performance anxiety
- Medical problems
- Substance abuse

Sex  
Positives & Enhancers

- A supportive relationship
- Psychological Comfort
- Commitment
- Relax, enjoy
- Good communication
- Knowledge

Sex  
Positives & Enhancers

*A total marital package is the secret to a satisfying sex life.*

Life Stages