



Just Breathe - Week 2

Marriage – Jim Burgen

August 22, 2021

Group Creed

We come together as a Group with the goal of Spiritual Formation--encouraging one another to become the same kind of person that Jesus is, so that we can live out every part of our lives inside of His Kingdom.

// Bible References

Genesis 1:18, 3:12; Deuteronomy 6:4-5; Matthew 19:4-6; Mark 12:29-31.

// Message Summary

This week's message from Pastor Jim Burgen is the second in a series on family, marriage, parenting and other important relationships. This series challenges us to look "upstream" (to God and our relationship with Him) before we look "downstream" (to the challenges of life). God's promise to us is that when we seek Him first, He will provide for all our daily needs. Though today's message is on marriage, we know that God works coherently: the truths of marriage are applicable to all of us, regardless of our age, gender or marital status.

// Community Questions

1. As a group, can you name 5 celebrity couples (entertainers, athletes, government leaders etc) who have built and kept just one marriage?
2. Which married couple do you admire? Why?

// Discussion Questions

1. As a group, read Matthew 19:1-6. What do you notice? What questions does it raise for you?
2. What are some advantages of being in a marriage that truly reflects God's intention for this sacred union?
3. Jim presented two root causes of a troubled marriage: pride and selfishness. Have you seen yourself acting in this way, and what was the impact on your marriage or other friendships?
4. Jim stated: "Love is all about choosing sacrifice and servanthood - choosing to lay down my life, my rights, my priorities - in order to provide for, protect and serve my spouse for the rest of my life." This is the kind of love that Christ exemplified.

How does aligning our lives with Christ's example help us love better in all of our relationships?

5. If God's intention for marriage was for spouses to provide for, protect and serve one another, what does that show us about God and His commitment to His people?

// Challenge

At the end of our service, we prayed this prayer:

"God, search me and see if there is any pride and selfishness that is standing opposed to what I know you say is true and good. God, what are you commanding me to do differently, even if I just don't want to do it?"

- Pray this prayer again. And then pause to give time to listen to what God is saying. Continue this prayer during the week, each time giving God time and space to respond. As He does, ask His Spirit to begin a new work in you in this area of your life.