



I Declare: Marriage & Relationships Edition

Week 5: Don't Give Up on Your Marriage CCV Sermon Guide

OPENING QUESTION:

Think of your spouse or your closest friend: What is one quirky difference between you and them that you only discovered after knowing one another for some time? How do you both handle it now?

STUDY COMPANION VIDEO

READ:

[Malachi 2:16](#)

[Matthew 19:5-6](#)

[2 Timothy 2:13](#)

[Revelation 2:4-5](#)

DISCUSS:

1. Think about a time when you had to work through a tough situation with someone close to you. How did you handle it, and what did you learn about your relationship?"
2. How does Matthew 19:3-6 help us understand the difference between treating relationships as a contract versus a covenant?"
3. What are some ways we can show sacrificial love in our relationships, making them more like a covenant and less like a contract?"
4. Which declaration has God chosen for you to focus on this year (*God First, Intentionally Pursue, We > me, Guard the Purity, or Not Quit*)? What are you doing this week to help drive this focus?

CHALLENGE:

- **Singles:** Spend some time this week identifying the key relationships in your life that you want to nurture as covenantal rather than contractual. Consider how you can apply principles of sacrificial love and commitment in these relationships, even if they are not romantic. Write down one specific action you can take to strengthen these bonds.
- **Married Couples:** Share with each other the declaration you have chosen to focus on and explain why it resonates with you. Invite your spouse to share their perspective on how they would like to see you actively pursue this declaration. Empower them to hold you accountable in your journey to live it out.

TAKE HOME QUESTIONS:

Table Talk (a question to ask your family or friends over a meal): How do you think relationships get stronger when people focus on commitment and understanding each other? Can you share an example from your life or someone you know

Water Cooler (a question to ask at work): What do you think makes a relationship last, whether it's with a friend, family member, or partner? Have you seen any examples of this in your own life or around you?

PRAYER:

Gracious God, I thank You for the relationships in my life. As I reflect on the importance of commitment and unity, I ask for Your wisdom and guidance. Help me to show love and support to those around me and to seek Your presence in all that I do. Strengthen me with Your Spirit to live out the principles of covenantal love, offering grace and understanding in my interactions. Bless me with the courage to grow and the peace that comes from trusting in You. In Jesus' name, I pray. Amen.

Study:

- For Marriages: [You and Me Forever](#)
- For Singles: [Warrior Relations](#)