

Week 42
I Do
Hebrews 8

Think about the day you were married. You both swore an oath for better or worse and you meant it. As time has passed—as the days, weeks, months, and years have gone by—is your marriage still as fresh and new as it was on your wedding day? Have your career, “toys,” hobbies, or friends gotten in the way of your marriage or put distance between you and your spouse?

In the book of Hebrews, Paul speaks of the covenant God had with His people in Egypt. He had Moses deliver the Ten Commandments on two stone tablets. The problem was that after a while, the novelty wore off and the people became disobedient. They no longer wanted the responsibility of the rules God set down for an intimate relationship with Him. His people didn’t keep their part of the bargain. They had promised to follow God’s laws, but failed.

God had to turn His back on the people of the First Covenant, but He had another plan in Jesus, the New Covenant. If you accept Jesus, this plan is carved into your heart. You have the opportunity to get to know Him firsthand and to be forgiven with all your sins wiped cleanly off the slate.

Are you following the rules of God’s covenant for marriage? Are you forgiving? Do you exhibit mercy and compassion? Are you willing to lay down your life for your spouse? If your marriage is not better than it was on your wedding day, it’s time to claim or reclaim God’s New Covenant. Renew your relationship with God and your spouse, woven together as one. If you will start your day in prayer together before you leave the house, you will draw closer to each other and be amazed at the blessings that will flow into your lives. God will reveal Himself to you in new ways and your marriage covenant will be strengthened and renewed.

Questions to Consider

- What is the greatest challenge that keeps your marriage from being fresh and new?
- What specific actions can you take to keep your marriage healthy?

Applying the Lesson

Commit to praying together before you leave the house each day this week.

Prayer for the Week

Heavenly Father, we desire to keep the promises we have made to You and to each other. We ask that you bind our thoughts onto Your thoughts and penetrate our hearts to the deepest levels with Your Word. Release Your compassion, mercy, and love within us. Help us to selflessly give ourselves away to You and to one another. Lord, reveal Yourself and Your plan for our marriage to us so that we might fulfill Your purpose.