



THE GRACE AWAKENING

A MARRIAGE OILED BY GRACE

SELECTED SCRIPTURES



The Heart of the Matter

No study on the subject of grace would be complete without addressing its importance in the home, especially between marriage partners. We have spent considerable time examining God's grace in His offering salvation to those who are lost, spiritually dead, and unable to do anything to earn divine acceptance. We've called that "vertical grace." We have also searched Scripture for insight in the realm of "horizontal grace," our attitude toward and treatment of one another. But we have not *specifically* considered the essential value of grace in the husband-wife relationship. As we shall see in this lesson, grace is the oil that decreases domestic friction, the one ingredient that prompts us to release our partners to be all God would have them be, all the while affirming one another in an atmosphere of unconditional love.



Discovering the Way

1. The Grace to Face Marital Realities (1 Corinthians 7:3–5, 10–13, 27–28)

We need to embrace three realities about marriage: it requires mutual unselfishness, it means a lifelong commitment, and it includes stressful times.

2. The Grace to Accept Personal Responsibilities (Ephesians 5:15–24, 28)

For a marriage to work well, each partner must accept his or her primary responsibility.

3. The Grace to Fulfill Distinct Roles (1 Peter 3:1–4, 7)

As we seek to live out a marriage oiled by grace, both husbands and wives must recognize the need for grace to fulfill their roles.



Starting Your Journey

Married couples should value mutual equality, mutual dignity, mutual humility, and mutual destiny.



Tools for Digging Deeper



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