

Welcome to Lakeview Church's Marriage & Family Ministry

CHIP INGRAM

Pastor, Author and Nationally Syndicated Radio Host, *Living on the Edge*

MARRIAGE

B U I L T T O L A S T

Living Intentionally & Loving Biblically

Marriage and Family Ministry

Celebrating God's Design!

- ❖ The Marriage and Family Ministry exists to **equip** and **power** couples and families to grow closer to Christ and each other.
- ❖ We exist to **offer** couples, from engaged through milestone anniversaries, a place to learn together from Scripture how to build a home where:
 - (1) The love of Christ is shining;
 - (2) Relationships are Biblically structured; and
 - (3) Genuine intimacy, authenticity and vulnerability is central.

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Will Living According to God's Design Really
Make a Difference?

YES!

“Biblical Manhood and Womanhood is a deeply satisfying gift of grace from a loving God who has the best interest of His creatures at heart. This is fulfilling in the deepest sense.”

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About the “*Marriage: Built to Last*” Series

6 DVD Sessions dealing with:

- 1) Adjusting to Expectations
- 2) Learning to Communicate Clearly
- 3) Breaking Down Walls
- 4) Resolving Conflict
- 5) Restoring Sex and Intimacy
- 6) Striving for a Christ-Centered Marriage

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Tonight's Topic

Adjusting to Expectations

Material

*25 minute DVD with
Study / Discussion Questions*

Video

*The Newly Weds vs.
The "Not-So" Newly Weds*

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Adjusting to Expectations

Flow of DVD

- 1. Welcome: Todd and Blynda Lane (1:00)*
- 2. About Chip's Marriage (3:30)*
- 3. Comments by Todd and Blynda (:20)*
- 4. Kurt and Brenda Warner's story (5:45)*
- 5. Insight by Chip Ingram (1:30)*

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Adjusting to Expectations

Flow of DVD

6. *Kalen & Julie (2:15)*
7. *Chip on Kalen & Julie's Issue (1:30)*
8. *Ty & Cindy (2:40)*
9. *Chip on Ty & Cindy's Issue (2:30)*
10. *Closing: The Lane's (:30)*

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About “Expectations”

Q1. What are some of the Expectation you individually or people in general enter into marriage with?

Q2. What are some of the ramification or results of unmet Expectations.

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Adjusting to Expectations

Let's Meet the Couple's

1. Kurt and Brenda Warner
2. Kalen and Julie
3. Ty and Cindy

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WATCH THE VIDEO

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Let's Discuss

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Chip's Comments:

- 1) Expectations can Change – As we see God's perspective on marriage and not our own.
- 2) Conflict is Normal – it is an opportunity to Grow – we need to know how to address conflict – how to communicate
 - a. Running away from / Avoiding conflict is dangerous/detrimental to a relationship

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Chip's Comments (cont.)

- 4) There is no **easy** route; just a **good** one
- 5) Realize that I Need Help
- 6) Rewards – Full Cleaving:
 - a. Spiritual Openness; Unconditional love (*Agape*);
 - b. Emotional connection; Best Friends (*Phileo*);
 - c. Physical / Sexual Intimacy (*Eros*)
 - d. These are all interconnected.

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Questions from Session #1

1. **Page 13** – How can a couple develop Trust in each other?
2. **Page 13** – Is the Hollywood (*TV, Movies...*) model for marriage what you expect?
3. **Pages 13–14 – By the Book** – Genesis 1:26–28 – God designed marriage is the “*Puzzle Top.*”

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Questions from Session #1 (cont.)

4. Pages 14–15 – *Leaving* Parents and Cleaving to Spouse
5. Page 15 – “Working This Out”: Look at the 6 phrases. Discuss and Share
6. Page 16 – Expectations – Read statements A, B, and C. Discuss and Share.

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Questions from Session #1 (cont.)

7. Page 16 – “Leaving””: Read the four “Leaving” questions and discuss.
8. Page 17 – “Cleaving” – Read the five “Cleaving” questions and discuss.

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Conclusion

Take time over the next several weeks to go over Session #1 questions and spend time talking about them.

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A Prayer for Your Marriage:

Teach me how to pray and make my prayers a true language of love. Where love has died, create new love in me. Show me what unconditional love really is and how to communicate it in a way that is clearly perceived. May the God of patience and comfort grant us to be like-minded toward one another, according to Christ Jesus (Ro. 5:5). Make us a couple, not pursuing separate, competitive, or independent lives, but working together, overlooking each other's faults and weaknesses for the greater good of the church. Help us to pursue the things, which make for peace and the things by which one may edify another (Ro. 14:19). May we be "perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment." (1 Cor. 1:10)