



# SOJOURNERS AND EXILES

## A JOURNEY THROUGH FIRST PETER

### **GOD'S ANTIDOTE FOR TRANSACTIONAL MARRIAGES**

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#### **EPHESIANS 4:29-32**

<sup>29</sup> Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear. <sup>30</sup> And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. <sup>31</sup> Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. <sup>32</sup> Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.

#### **SUMMARY**

A transactional marriage is the opposite of God's design. Unfortunately, "If you treat me that way, then I will treat you this way," is more common than God's best. It's so easy to fall into this trap in our relationships, especially in marriage. Ephesians 4:29-32 provides the much-needed antidote to have and to hold to God's best for our marriages.



**PROBLEM: A TRANSACTIONAL MARRIAGE GRIEVES OUR GOD.**

**SOLUTION: CHRIST'S EXAMPLE IS GOD'S ANTIDOTE**

**Ephesians 5:1-2**

<sup>1</sup> Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children. <sup>2</sup> And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God. Honor Her In Public

**APPLICATION: SHARE GOD'S BEST FOR YOUR RELATIONSHIP**

**SOLUTION: CHRIST'S EXAMPLE IS GOD'S ANTIDOTE**

**Start with Heart.**

**Help the Safety.**

**Ask for their Story.**

**Respect their Role.**

**End with a Plan.**

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Share a time when someone said something to you that deeply encouraged you and stayed with you for a long time.
2. According to Ephesians 4:29, what kinds of words should believers avoid?
3. What does Paul say our speech should accomplish in the lives of others?
4. Why do you think Paul connects everyday attitudes and speech with grieving the Holy Spirit in verse 30? What is the difference between showing respect and showing honor?
5. Which of the attitudes listed in verse 31 do you think most often damages relationships?
6. What does it look like in everyday life to be kind and compassionate as described in verse 32?
7. How does remembering that God forgave us in Christ shape the way we forgive others?
8. What does it practically mean to imitate God and walk in love according to Ephesians 5:1-2?
9. What did you most need to hear from the sermon and passage this week?

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