The Ministry of Marriage…

The Origin of Love

* God made us with the purpose of being in relationship with Him first (Deut. 6:5). He also recognized, from the beginning, that we (men) are better and more effective in partnership. (Gen 2:15-18)
* We are called to a role of servant leadership, not dictatorship. Our role as the head is to emulate Christ, serving as the lever that lifts those around us through sacrifice… beginning with our wives. (Ephesians 5:22-33).

Placing Courage

* As husbands (and father’s) we are uniquely positioned to strengthen and encourage our wives towards their uniqueness in Christ, just as God did for Joshua. (Josh. 1:3-9)
* Brennan Manning wrote, “Lodged in your heart is the power to walk into somebody’s life and give them what Paul Tillich called ‘the courage to be’”.

Conflict Leading to Restoration

* We know that conflict is inevitable, but it doesn’t have to be damaging. It reveals our desires, which means that it gives us valuable opportunities to see our wives completely. We should “fight for them and not against them.”
* Biblically, our goal in marital conflict (and in any sort of conflict) should always be restoration. Forgive, reconcile, and seek unity. (Eph. 5:25-31)

A Marriage on Mission

* The entirety of our lives should point the world around us to the grace of the gospel. This means that the point of our marriages, first and foremost, is to reflect the Cross. It is to be a witness of God’s Love. (Matt. 22:34-40)
* There is a reason that God refers to His church in terms that depicts us as His bride (Rev. 21:2 & 9. Our marriages are to form the foundation of relationship with others.

Our simple directive as men? Love God. Love Spouse. Love Others.