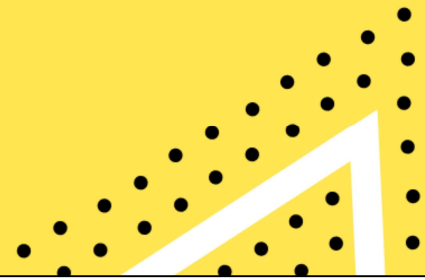





Pursuing a Godly Relationship

Webinar #1 - Overview





announcement!

- Sessions are recorded (but it only shows me)
 - Special bonus session (7th session)
 - Baby crying!! (it's okay)
- 



Who are you

introduction time!

Tell us your name

Where you are from

Your favourite snack/food



Who is 譚君正
(Cliff Tam)?



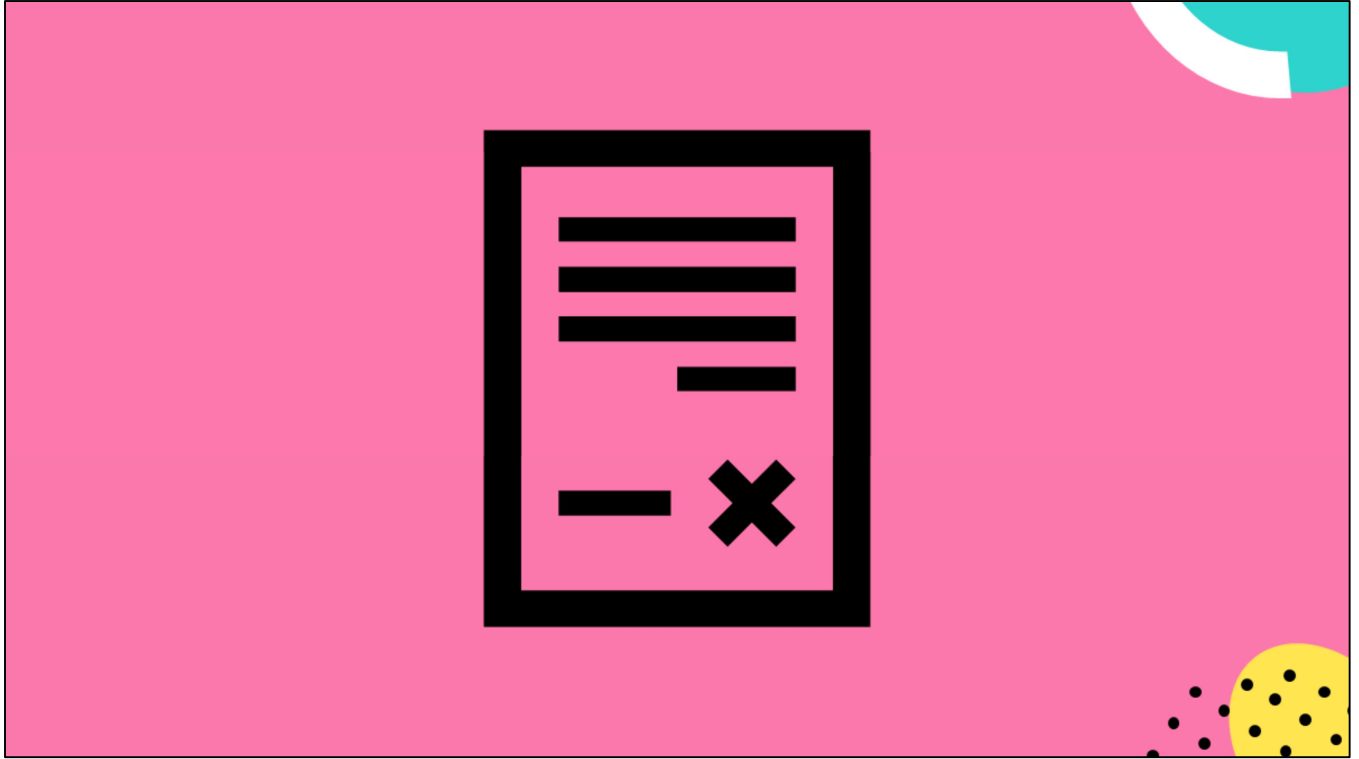


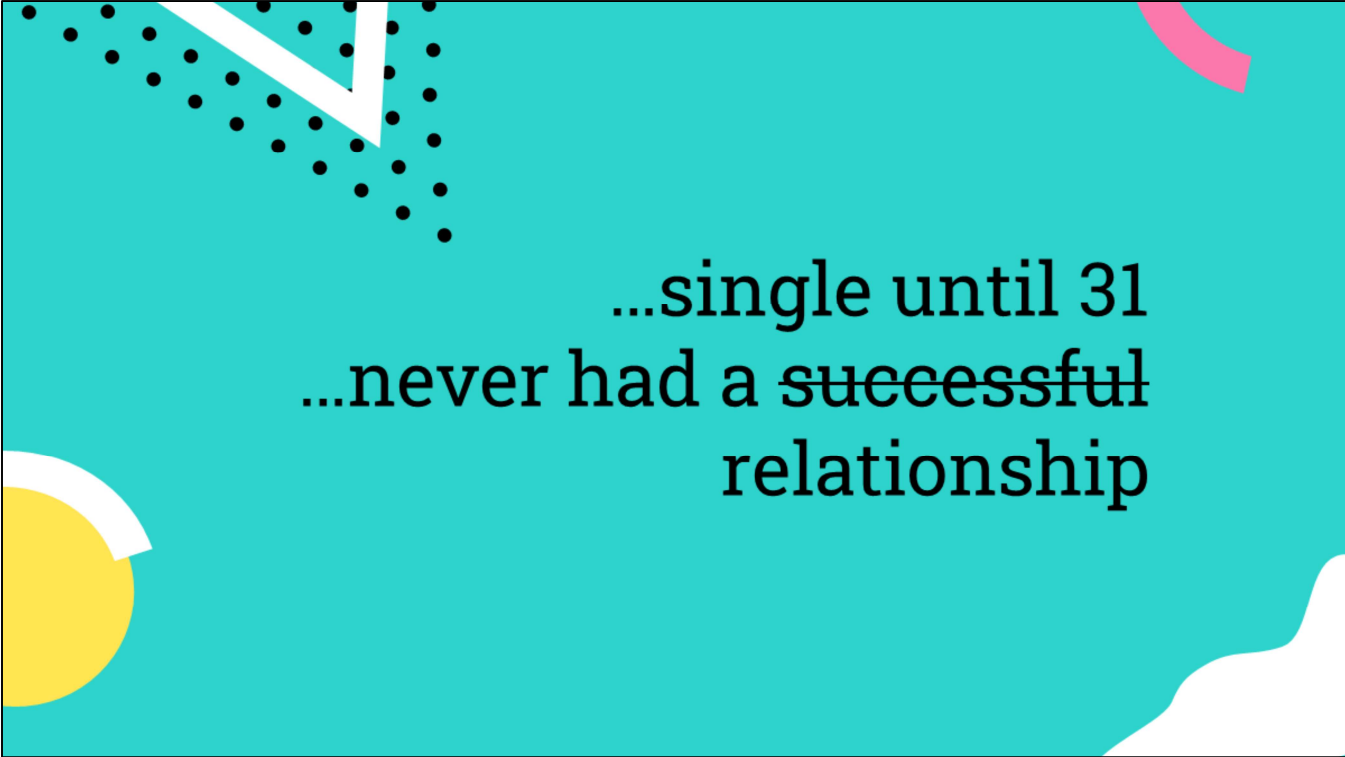
Do you like to
watch a movie
with a love theme?



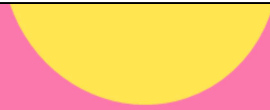
Let's have a dating contest!





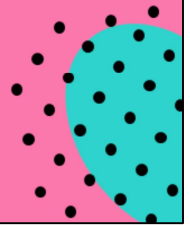


...single until 31
...never had a ~~successful~~
relationship



What to expect

- You are a follower of Jesus Christ (aka disciple).
- Dating and relationship from a Biblical and spiritual perspective
- And lots of embarrassing stories from Cliff



- you are a follower of Jesus Christ - aka a disciple
- not merely going to church
- a desire to seek Him and His righteousness (ref)
- gym analogy

Disciple = Bible base

- Balance Bible view. I don't think mind is an extreme view



What not to expect

- Be your Matchmaker
- tips on how getting the guy/girl of your dreams
- Give you a Disney ending
- Theological debate

Have a happily ever ending – no Disney ending
- But will have one that follow and honor God

theological debates (complementarian vs egalitarian)

Series Objectives

Honour God in our Relationship

Develop *Healthy* Relationship

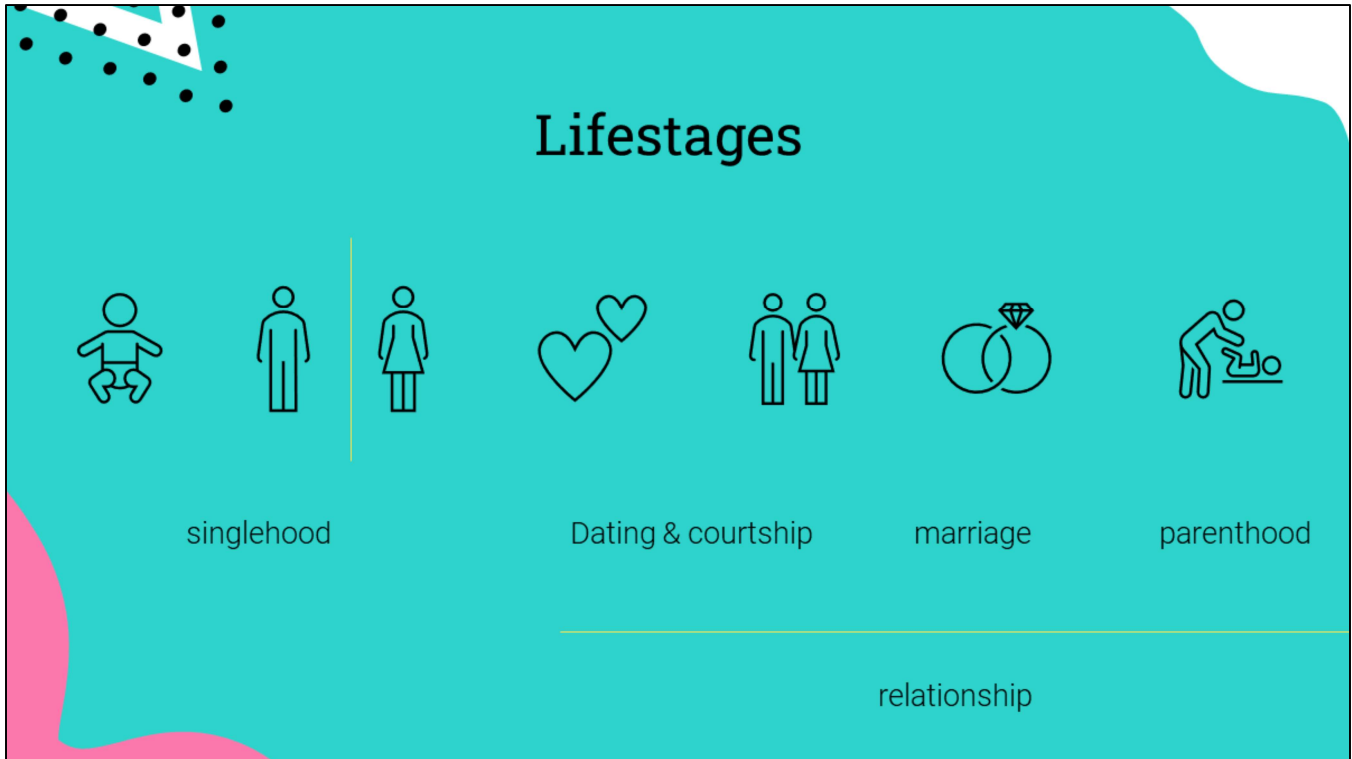
So the whole series is focus on two things

- Honour God in our relationship
- Develop healthy relationship

- You can do one without the other

- What does honour mean?
- Doing the right thing

- What is healthy relationship means?
- Both party in the relationship is free to glorify God in his/her own way – not rule in fear, condemnation



Why relationship? Why not just talk about dating or courtship?
 Because relationship covers one stage to the next
 Each life stage is built upon another

A lot of focus is on dating or how to find a mate.
 But I want to take a 30,000 feet view

Pull back, not be overwhelm and see this
 This is your normal life stages

I want you to keep this in mind as you think about relationship
 Bc there is no point in having a high in dating and then didn't realize you are not
 equip/prepare for marriage and parenthood

It is like going to University and randomly taking courses. No you have a plan to take the
 courses needed to get your degree.
 Why don't we approach this in relationship?

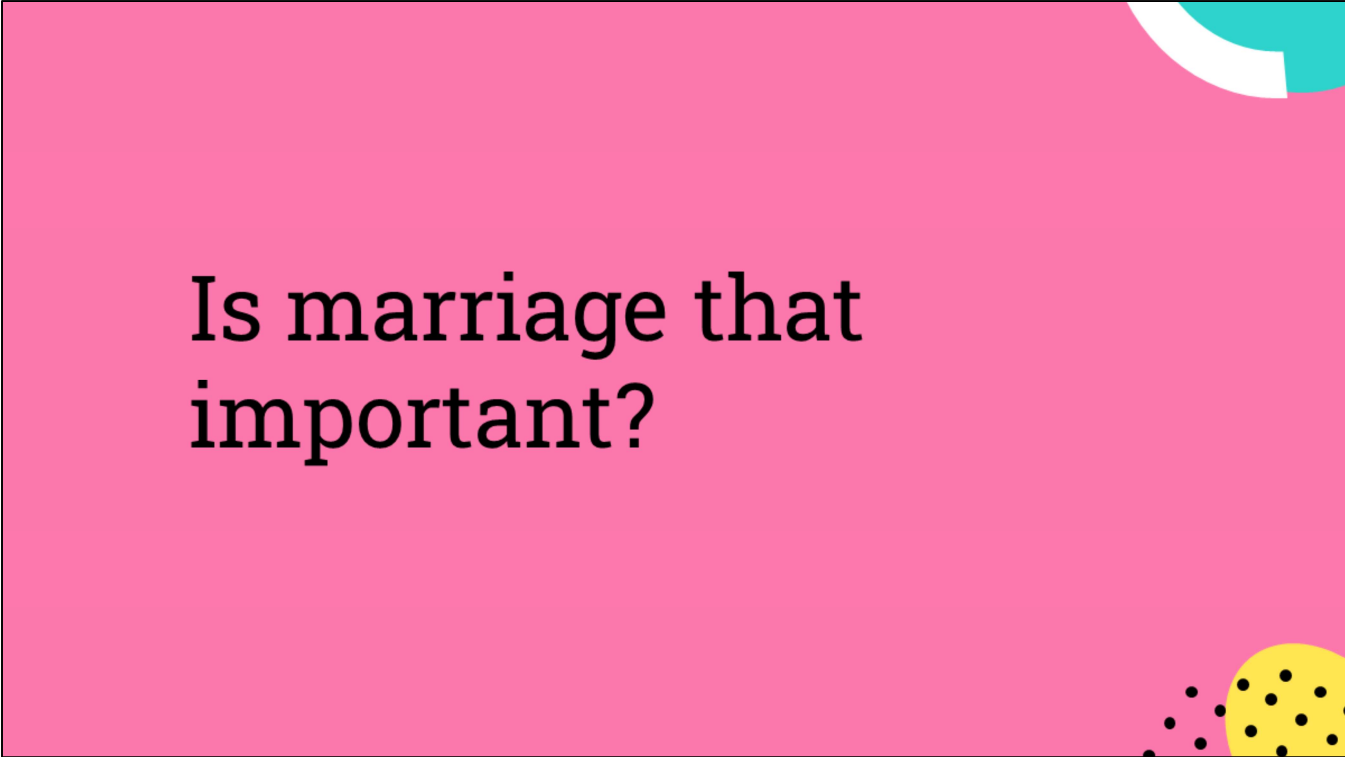
I use the word relationship because it spans from dating until the end.

Also, singlehood is not the same as celibacy as what Paul talked about – I will discuss this
 in another session

Also, it is interesting to note we spend so much time in our lives on studying and working
 hard to make money and start a career

Yet, when it comes to relationship, how much time we focus on that?
I know it is hard because it deals with feelings and also hard to measure
But your marriage will last for life. We change career easily these days.

Doesn't it make sense if we spend some of my time/energy in relationship, at the very least in our part in the relationship?



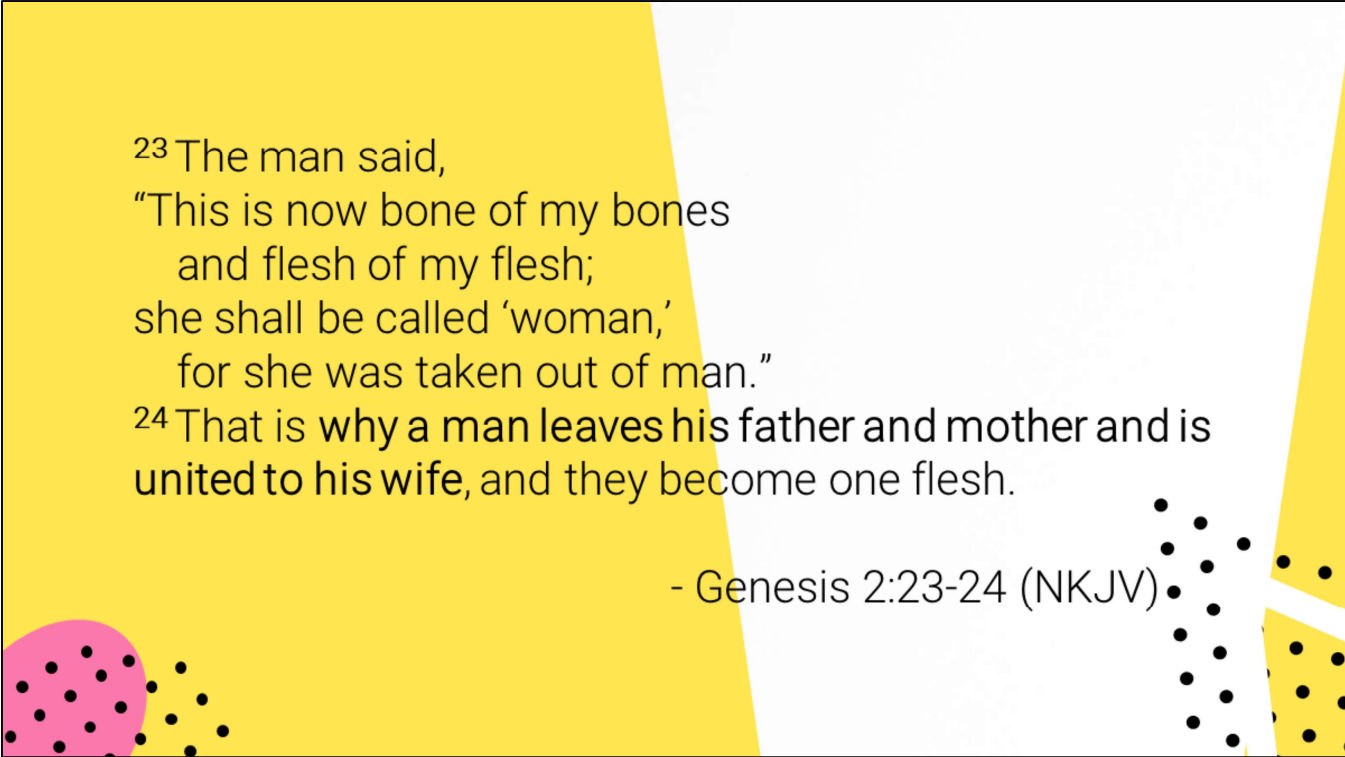
Is marriage that important?

It is

Marriage is created by God

Marriage is a blessing
Children are a blessing
Sex is a gift from God

But will explain more on these aspect later in the series



²³ The man said,
“This is now bone of my bones
and flesh of my flesh;
she shall be called ‘woman,’
for she was taken out of man.”

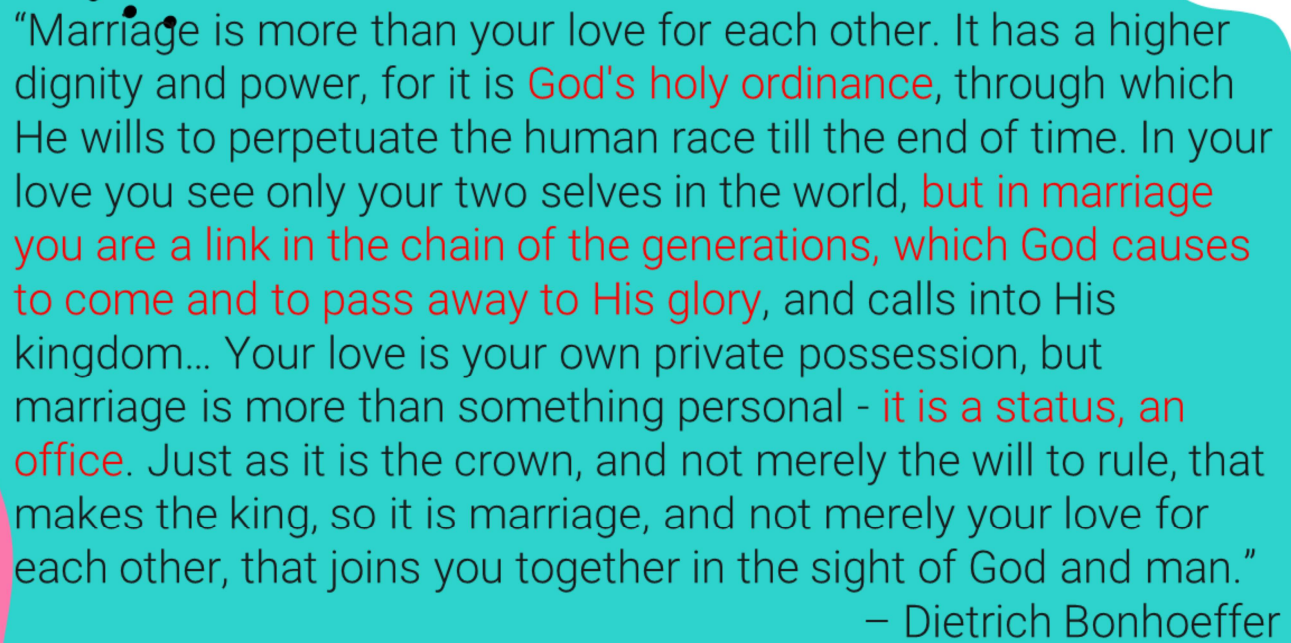
²⁴ That is why a man leaves his father and mother and is united to his wife, and they become one flesh.

- Genesis 2:23-24 (NKJV)

Gen 2 – right from the beginning marriage is mentioned.

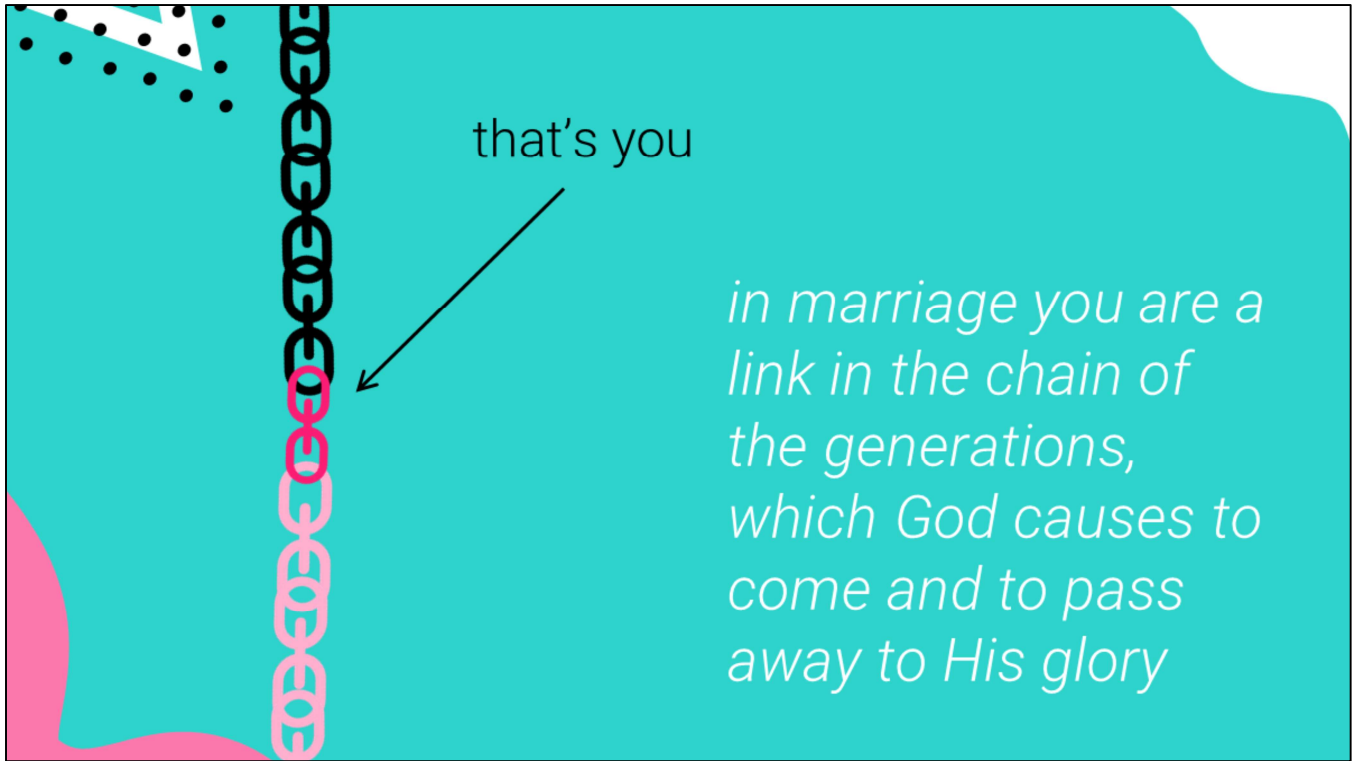
You can write many things in the intro, marriage – the idea of leave and cleave is discussed?

Why? Bc it is important in God’s heartbeat.

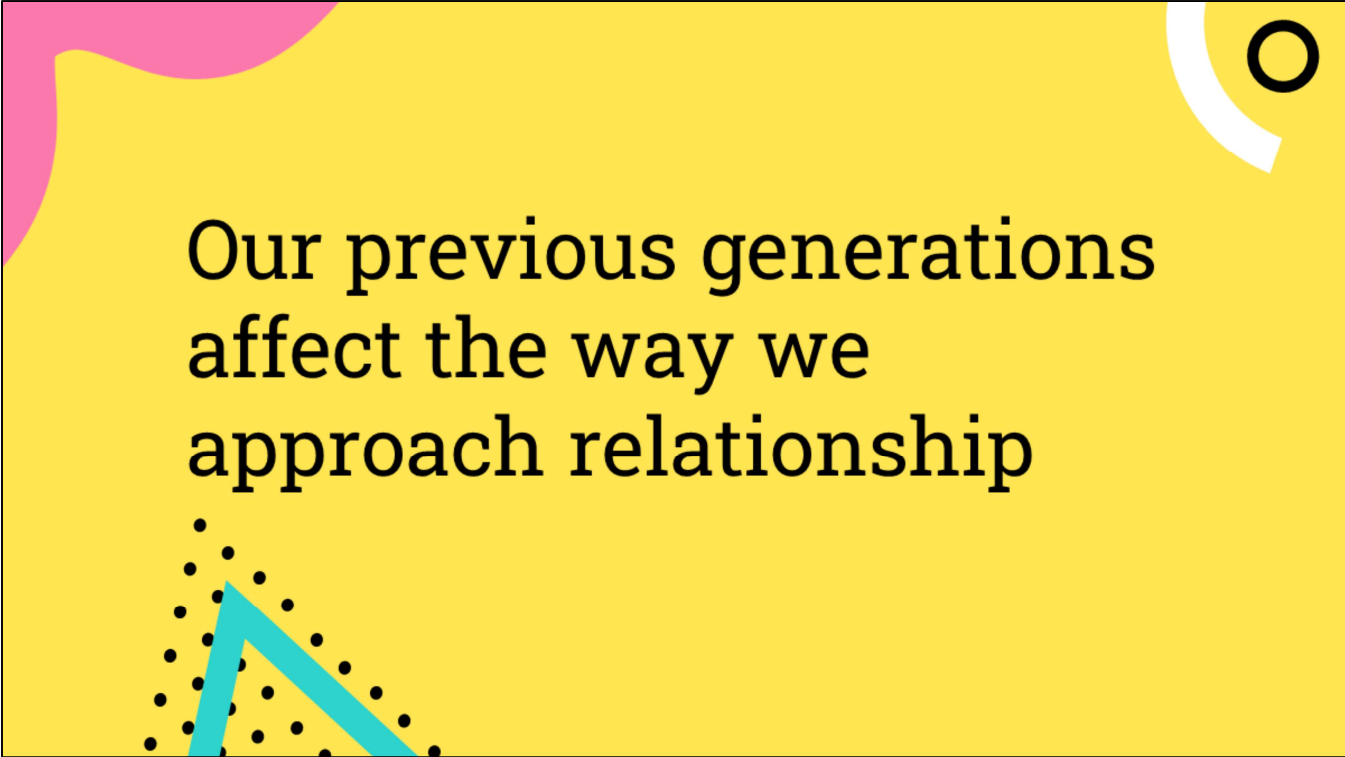


“Marriage is more than your love for each other. It has a higher dignity and power, for it is **God's holy ordinance**, through which He wills to perpetuate the human race till the end of time. In your love you see only your two selves in the world, **but in marriage you are a link in the chain of the generations, which God causes to come and to pass away to His glory**, and calls into His kingdom... Your love is your own private possession, but marriage is more than something personal - **it is a status, an office**. Just as it is the crown, and not merely the will to rule, that makes the king, so it is marriage, and not merely your love for each other, that joins you together in the sight of God and man.”
– Dietrich Bonhoeffer

- What is ordinance?
 - God design and His order



- Family is God's design
- As such we look at relationship based off of families



Our previous generations
affect the way we
approach relationship



Abraham and Isaac

Now there was a famine in the land, and Abram went down to Egypt to live there for a while because the famine was severe. 11 As he was about to enter Egypt, he said to his wife Sarai, "I know what a beautiful woman you are. 12 When the Egyptians see you, they will say, 'This is his wife.' Then they will kill me but will let you live. 13 *Say you are my sister, so that I will be treated well for your sake and my life will be spared because of you.*"

- Genesis 12:10-13 (NIV)

6 So Isaac stayed in Gerar.

7 When the men of that place asked him about his wife, he said, *"She is my sister,"* because he was afraid to say, "She is my wife." He thought, "The men of this place might kill me on account of Rebekah, because she is beautiful."

- Genesis 26:6-7 (NIV)

Why did Isaac lie?

This is the same lie as Abraham

Same fear

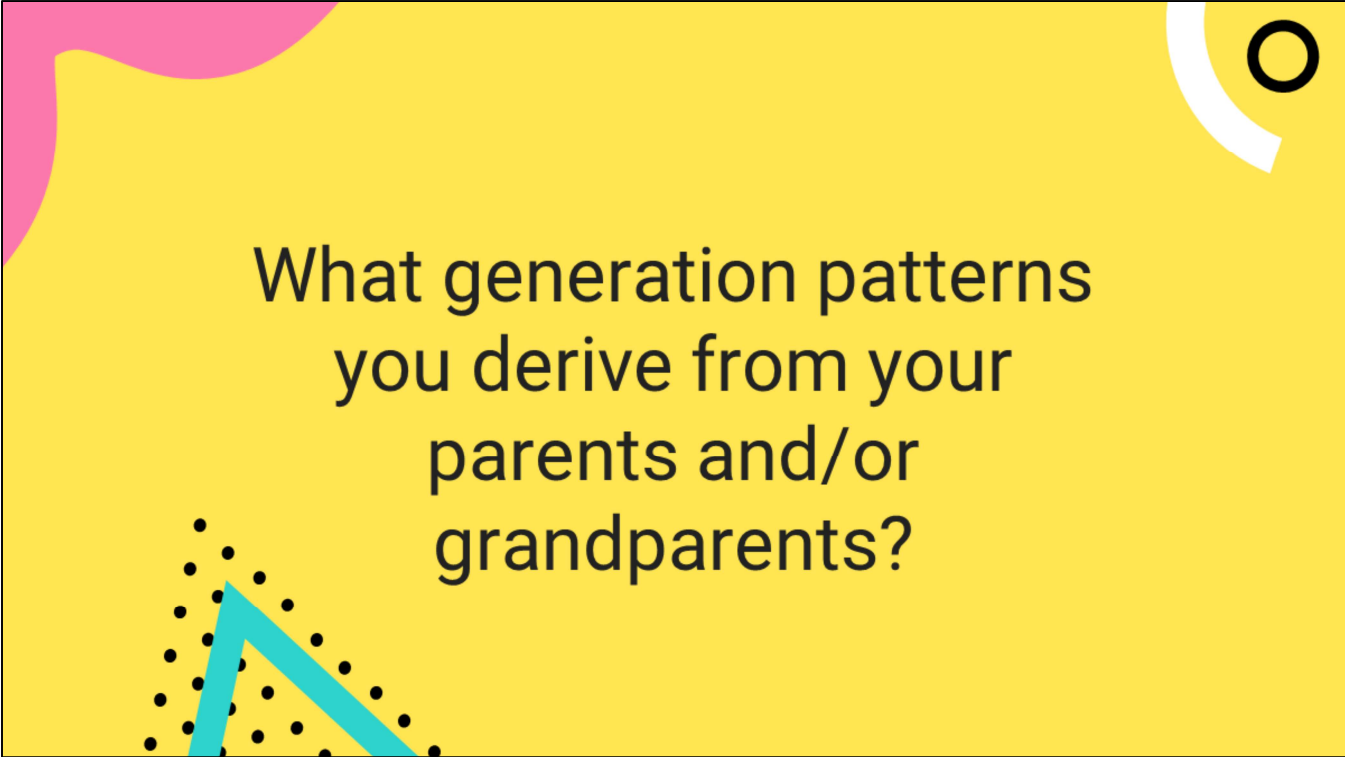
Did Abraham told him to do this? Obviously not, because it didn't work fro Abraham

A pattern of lying is pass down from one generation to another

So this is one truth we see in the Bible

We inherit good and bad things from our parents and parents before hand

This truth has a huge factor on how we approach relationship

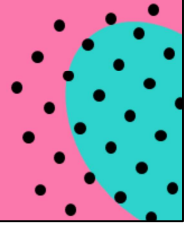


What generation patterns
you derive from your
parents and/or
grandparents?



Things to consider...

- Who makes the decision in your family?
- What type of conflict resolution is common in your family?
- What values you were taught at home (verbal and non-verbal)?



These questions will give you a glimpse of how you approach relationship especially what you value or not value


Also, relationships will have conflict (healthy and unhealthy ones)? You and I learn from our parents.

I will never be my parents or I will never date someone like my parents

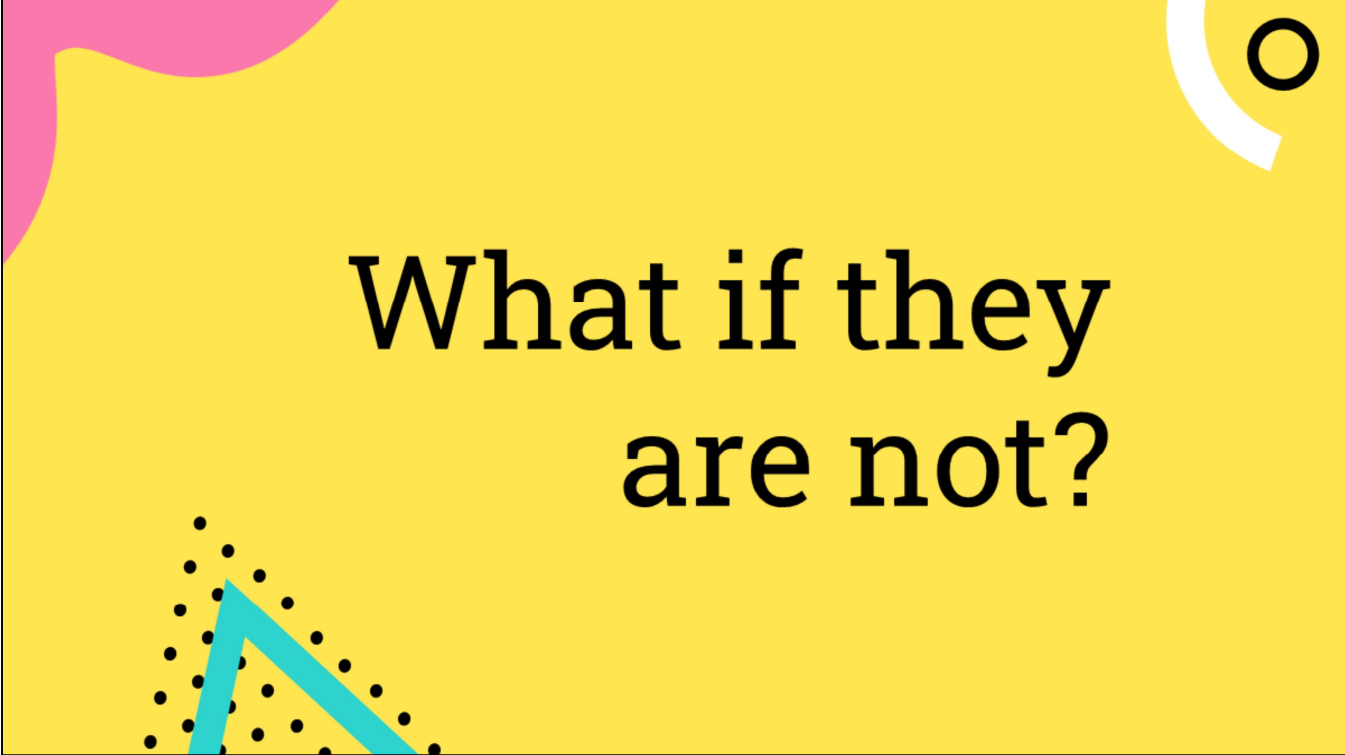
- Even if you say that, this very statement alone proves that how our parents raise us effect our view in relationships

My question is:

Does this view a skewed one that is not Biblical?



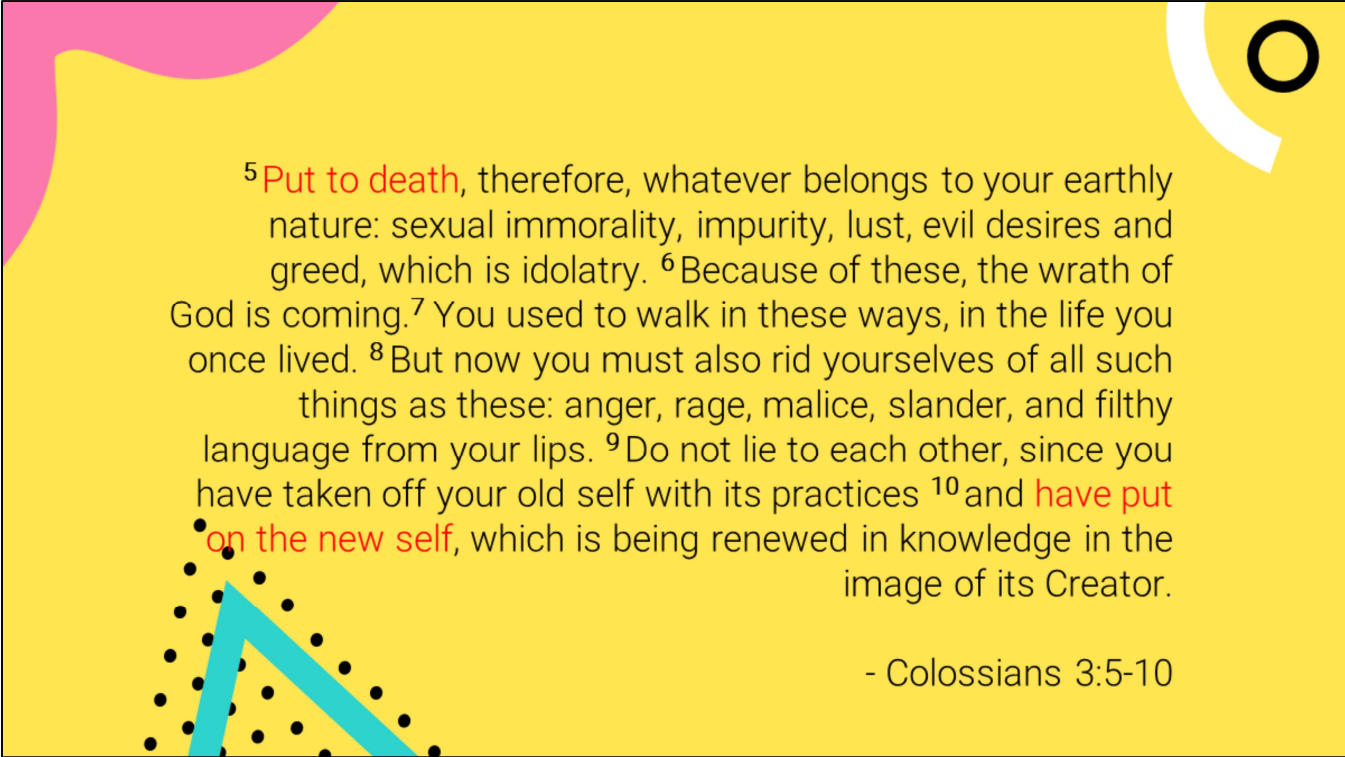
Are these patterns Biblical
(and healthy)?



What if they are not?

- Does this mean you dealt a 'bad' hand?
- The reality is that we are all in the same state.
- Our previous generations who do not know Christ or even if they know Christ but not willing to change, will pass these 'sinful' nature to us
- So the question is can we change?

- Of course, we can. But only in Christ.



⁵Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry. ⁶Because of these, the wrath of God is coming. ⁷You used to walk in these ways, in the life you once lived. ⁸But now you must also rid yourselves of all such things as these: anger, rage, malice, slander, and filthy language from your lips. ⁹Do not lie to each other, since you have taken off your old self with its practices ¹⁰and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator.

- Colossians 3:5-10

Some people believe that you don't need to do anything and Christ will do it for you
Not this, this you have to allow the Holy Spirit to work in you.

Leaving a legacy?



-You may not think about it like this...or at least not yet

A lot of times at church we talk about leaving a legacy for our children

What legacy do you want to leave?

Asians, Chinese, especially thinks of stuff

Money

House

Car

Just stuff

But I believe a greater more valuable legacy is what the Bible talks about the new self

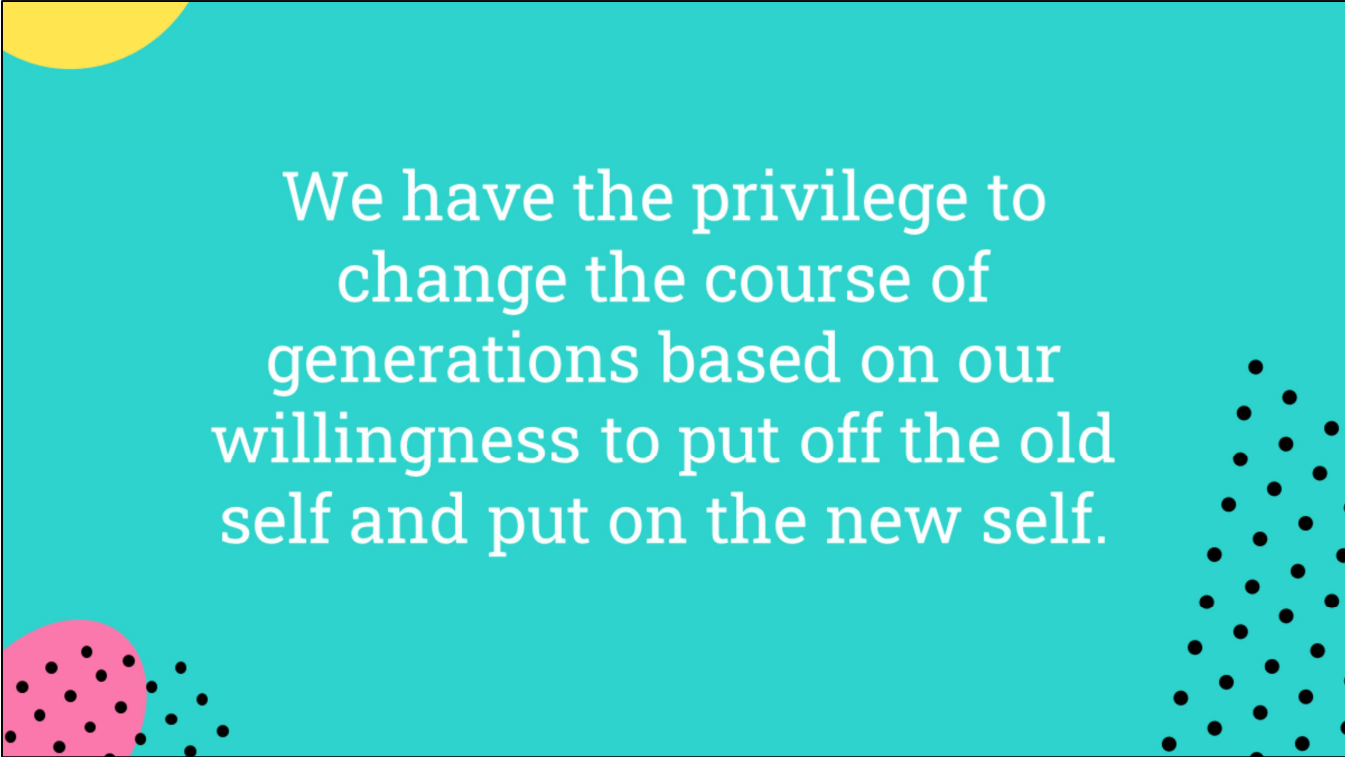
The life from Jesus

It may sound discouraging you have to do all these work

BUT take it from another angle

You and I have the privilege to stop these unhealthy generation patterns.

That's what I want to leave to my kiddies.



We have the privilege to
change the course of
generations based on our
willingness to put off the old
self and put on the new self.

This is the same course as in discipleship
It is not diff
It is the same

And this is so practical.



topic series

02.
Healthy
relationship

03.
Physical
Intimacy

04.
Dating and
Courtship

05.
Marriage

06.
Parenthood





Session 7

Q&A with Wai Jia and Cliff

Date: tbd



Thank you! Same time next week

Thursday (8:45 pm) or Saturday (2 pm)
Singapore time (SGT)

Feedback -> <http://bit.ly/relationship-feedback>
Contact me -> Cliff.tam@gmail.com

