

Fighting lies with truth**Lie #6:**

Marriage is a 50-50 proposition. As long as everyone does their part everything will be okay.

The truth:

Marriage is a 100%-100% proposition. It is an _____ commitment to an imperfect person. It's giving the other person what they need the _____, when they _____ it the least, at great _____.

Key verse:

³⁴ "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. ³⁵ By this everyone will know that you are My disciples, if you love one another."

John 13:34-35

Lie #7:

Marriage shouldn't be this difficult. No matter how hard I work it seems like we always have issues to work through. I really wonder if it's worth it.

The truth:

Everything of great value requires _____, _____, and _____. As my spouse and I face challenges and overcome them, our intimacy and joy will far outweigh our present problems.

Key verse:

Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.

Galatians 6:9

Lie #8:

I've tried hard to make this marriage work, but it's too far gone. God wants me to be happy and I know He'll understand if I get a divorce.

The truth:

God _____ divorce. No marriage is beyond repair. If Jesus can raise the dead, He can certainly _____ my marriage.

Key verse:

"The man who hates and divorces his wife," says the LORD, the God of Israel, "does violence to the one he should protect," says the LORD Almighty. So be on your guard, and do not be unfaithful.

Malachi 2:16

Discussion Questions:

1. How does shifting your mindset from a 50/50 contract to a 100%-100% covenant change the way you approach conflict and sacrifice in marriage?
2. Why do we often expect our most important relationship to be easy when we accept that careers and other goals require tremendous effort and perseverance?
3. Chip describes suffering as a "gift" that builds intimacy. How can you practically reframe your mindset to see struggles as opportunities for growth rather than just problems to be avoided?
4. When feeling weary in your marriage, what are some specific ways you can fight the urge to give up, as encouraged by Galatians 6:9?
5. How does the belief that "no marriage is beyond repair" challenge the cultural idea that personal happiness is the most important goal in a relationship?