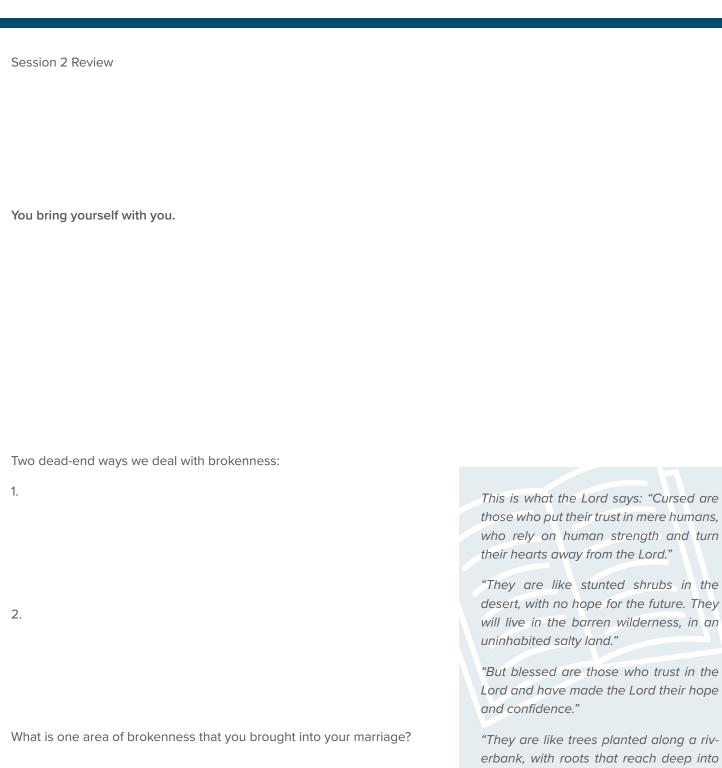
session 3: the root of our conflict - independence from God



Jeremiah 17:5-8

the water. Such trees are not bothered by the heat or worried by long months of drought. Their leaves stay green, and

they never stop producing fruit."



session 3 homework

Self-Examination: Diagnosing an Independent Heart

	Passivity / Abdicate (Passive Independence)	Faithful Dependence (Responsibility for and Strength for)	Self-Reliance / Dominate (Active Independence)
	Adam during the Fall, Eve with fig leaves	God's mandate to Adam and Eve, "making the unfruitful fruitful"	Eve during the Fall, Adam with fig leaves
	Examples:	Examples:	Examples:
Work	lazy, takes the easy way	initiative	workaholism
Marriage	passivity, accepts status quo	proactivity	domination, manipulation
Children	ignored, detached	developed	over-attached
Emotions	apathy, denial	engaged, vulnerable, honest	anger, manipulation
Self-image	defeated, depressed	sinner, saint, child	self-righteous
Pleasure	avoidance, numbing	enjoyment	distraction, addiction
Dealing with Sin	acting out, giving in, contempt	continual repentance, worship, tell on yourself	performance, religion, legalism
Hobbies	none	fun, pursued, in proportion	all-in, obsessed
Church	disengaged, attending	invested, involved	uber-volunteer, worker
Money	no plan	stewarded, managed	hyper-focused
Sex	ignored, ambivalent	enjoyed, celebrated	obsessed, weaponized
Health	negligent, couch potato	balanced, stewards body well	over indulges, proud

Self-Examination: Diagnosing an Independent Heart

Place an "X" on the continuum below that indicates where you have been living in each area over the last few months.

	Passivity / Abdicate (Passive Independence)	Faithful Dependence (Responsibility for and Strength for)	Self-Reliance / Dominate (Active Independence)
Work	lazy, takes the easy way	initiative	workaholism
Marriage	passivity, accepts status quo	proactivity	domination, manipulation
Children	ignored, detached	developed	over-attached
Emotions	apathy, denial	engaged, vulnerable, honest	anger, manipulation
Self-image	defeated, depressed	sinner, saint, child	self-righteous
Pleasure	avoidance, numbing	enjoyment	distraction, addiction
Dealing with Sin	acting out, giving in, contempt	continual repentance, worship, tell on yourself	performance, religion, legalism
Hobbies	none	fun, pursued, in proportion	all-in, obsessed
Church	disengaged, attending	invested, involved	uber-volunteer, worker
Money	no plan	stewarded, managed	hyper-focused
Sex	ignored, ambivalent	enjoyed, celebrated	obsessed, weaponized
Health	negligent, couch potato	balanced, stewards body well	over indulges, proud

Self-Examination: Diagnosing an Independent Heart

	Passivity / Abdicate (Passive Independence)	Faithful Dependence (Responsibility for and Strength for)	Self-Reliance / Dominate (Active Independence)
	Examples:	Examples:	Examples:
Work			
Marriage			
Children			
Emotions			
Self-image			
Pleasure			
Dealing with Sin			
Hobbies			
Church			
Money			
Sex			
Health			17

After you have each completed the Faithful Dependence Continuum chart, set aside some time to share your insights and discuss these questions with your spouse.

- 1. Identify the area where you tend most toward passivity and the area where you tend most toward self-reliance.
- 2. Discuss with your spouse why you rated yourself this way in these areas and ask them how your attitudes and behaviors have affected them. How are your tendencies toward either passivity or self-reliance in specific areas causing conflict in your marriage? How have these tendencies caused you to hurt one another?
- 3. Share with each other what else you learned about yourself and how that may impact your marriage.
- 4. Ask your spouse for additional insights they might have (be gentle!).
- 5. Pick one area that you each would like to work on and define some concrete steps to move toward faithful dependence. How can you help one another grow in this area?