

Lesson 8: Five Pests That Will Wreck Your Marriage

1. It's been said that most marriages dissolve over an accumulation of little things rather than something major. Why do you think we allow that to happen?
2. The analogy of **Song of Solomon 2:15** is that of young foxes ruining a blossoming garden. A couple's garden represents their marriage and the idea of "blossom" indicates they are newly married. Why is it important to "catch the foxes" now rather than later?
3. Give examples of secular propaganda you've heard that cuts cross-grained to God's instruction of how marriage is to work.
4. How does busyness destroy a marriage?
5. The idea in the word "fool" is being thickheaded, insensitive, or impervious to the feelings of another. Paul is plain in his admonition: ***"Do not be foolish . . ."*** (Ephesians 5:17)
Applied to marriage, it is essential that we work to understand the needs of our spouse. What are some ways we can do this?

MARRIAGE THROUGH THE AGES

6. We live in a culture where escapism is seen as a solution. Marriage not working? Easy – walk away. This idea was summed up in the popular song “50 Ways to Leave Your Lover” by Paul Simon. The lyrics went like this:

Just slip out the back, Jack

Make a new plan, Stan

You don't need to be coy, Roy

Just get yourself free . . .

Just get yourself free . . . Which do you think is easier: run away or face your situation with the counsel of God's Spirit?

7. It is said that stubbornness can change holy wedlock into unholy deadlock! The attitude that grits the teeth and says, “I'll stay in this marriage, but I hate it!” How does **Ephesians 5:21** work to eliminate the stubbornness?