

Love Handles Part 1 – “The Killer C’s”  
February 4, 2018

The Killer C’s:

- [Cast off](#)
- [Convince](#)
- [Convict](#)
- [Control](#)
- [Capitulate](#)
- [Compromise](#)

- In a contractual approach to marriage, [love](#) is squeezed out.
- In a consumer/vendor relationship, [intimacy](#) is squeezed out.

Genesis 2:24-25

For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and they will become [one](#) flesh.

Malachi 2:13-15

You flood the LORD's altar with tears. You weep and wail because he no longer pays attention to your offerings or accepts them with pleasure from your hands. You ask, "Why?" It is because the LORD is acting as the witness between you and the wife of your youth, because you have broken faith with her, though she is your partner, the wife of your marriage [covenant](#). Has not the LORD made them [one](#)?

- Marriage is not a contract, but a [covenant](#).
- Contracts say, “I will [if](#) you will.” Covenants say, “I [will](#).”

Ephesians 5:21

[Submit](#) to one another out of reverence for Christ.

Homework:

- This week, start a [submission](#) competition.

Groups

1. How would you define the purpose of marriage? What are some of the influences and experiences that shaped your definition?

2. What hopes and dreams did you (or do you) have for marriage when you were younger? Name some of your past or present hopes and dreams. To what extent do you assume marriage can fulfill them?
3. Explain why expectations in a marriage can lead to the erosion of a relationship. Is it possible to have a marriage in which neither spouse has any expectations of the other? If so, what would that look like? If not, why not?
4. Talk about a time when you used one or more of the Killer Cs to try to fulfill your hopes and dreams in a relationship. What was the outcome?
5. In your opinion, when is compromise a good idea?
6. Read Ephesians 5:1–2. Does the idea of “giving yourself up” to another person—without the expectation that they will fulfill your hopes, dreams, and desires—seem reasonable? Why or why not?
7. Read Ephesians 5:21. In your opinion, what’s the most important word in this verse?