



EMBRACE *New Life*
Life, Love & Marriage COUNSELING & CONSULTING

A Couple's Roadmap
to Emotional Connection
& Vibrant, Radiating Love

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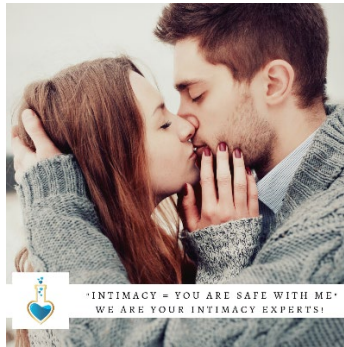
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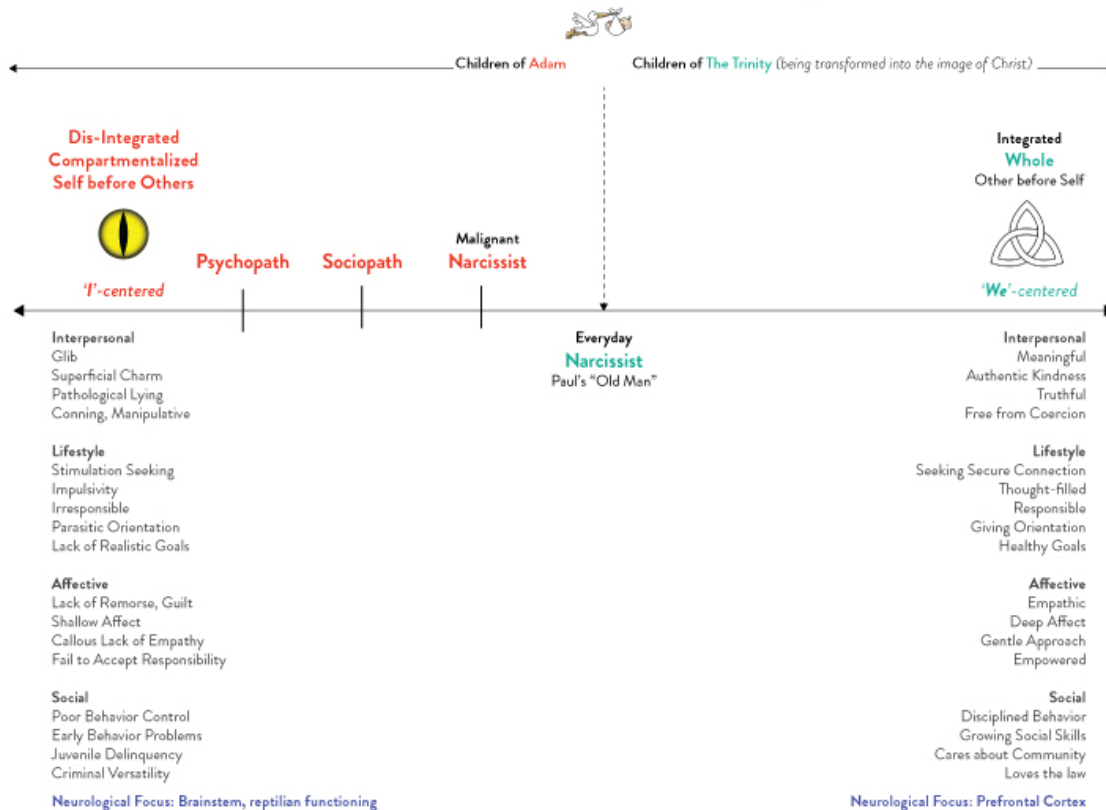
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Shipwrecked or Shooting Stars?



The truth is that humans are in one of two families – they are either children of Adam, or children of the Trinity. We ALL start out as Adam’s sons and daughters. Many people are offended when they hear this, but upon introspection often agree when they see the following Spectrum of Personal Functioning chart:

SPECTRUM of Personal Functioning



Elizabeth J. Davis, MA, LPC-S

When it comes to romantic and personal relationships, it is important to know where you and others are on the spectrum above. While we are all in progress, the hope is that you and those you do life up close with are on the right side of the spectrum. However, without careful study you can find sociopaths and psychopaths in the pew next to you at church, in the pulpit, and even asking you out on a date.

Hasty engagements and trust without evidence allow these personalities to slip your notice and limit opportunities to see red flags. Most churches recommend quick engagements to prevent sexual sin. While promoting holy behavior, this rush to marriage is ineffective in protecting congregants from injurious relationships. At Embrace New Life Counseling & Consulting, we offer premarital counseling to help couples begin and stay on the right path.

As Followers of Christ, we are not beyond having a malignant Narcissist moment, or even a sociopathic capitalistic season in our lives. However, the hope is that we are on a Journey with the Trinity™ and are transforming into holy functioning as a ‘We’. The recent trend of labeling our enemies or ex’s narcissists is not helpful. It certainly isn’t accurate. No one is a snapshot of functioning in time.

In our relationship counseling – plotting your own and your partner’s coordinates is just the beginning. We know that successful couples are expert at functioning as a ‘We’ and that it takes these couples approximately 7-8 years to accomplish this. This ‘We’ is not symbiotic or codependent, but rather A Trinity We™ functioning. Our work with couples aims to expedite this process.

Long Spoons and Trinity We’s™



There is an old Jewish proverb of Long Spoons. We won’t recite it in its entirety here but will simply say that it describes two types of living – harmonious and hellish. If, with long spoons, you simply

focus on feeding yourself, you will starve. If, with long spoons, you learn to feed each other, you will thrive. Hell is taking care of your own needs first. Harmony, or heaven, is meeting your own need by focusing on another's first.

Trinity We's™ include a Spiritual Third that unholy we's do not. This Spiritual Third is seen as the Source for both partners. In unholy trinities, partners view each other as their source. It is here that secular modalities of couples counseling fail to provide a sustainable pattern of harmony. Relying on each other – the infamous couple bubble – will always entropy.

Traditional Couples and Southern Pastoral Counseling

The downfall of most relationships, in our experience, is compromise. Compromising is an antediluvian, juvenile way of relating and it only breeds contempt. Taking turns at abdicating does not gender harmony, rather creates hostility. Most people – secular and religious – do not know how to relate in any other way. Old cultural and patriarchal hierarchy encourages biased and hellish compromise.

In the religious world, compromise works by forcing one to yield to 'biblical' authority. This involves dragging the feminine 'yes' or 'no' across the middle ground and laying it at the feet of the masculine (regardless of where he is positioned on the functioning spectrum above). Methods used range from exclusion, blocking, sabotaging, shaming, avoiding, coercing, and manipulation to the use of scripture to encourage abdication.

In the secular world, compromise works by keeping a score card. This involves alternating unhappiness, and both genders equally share in injury. A sad inheritance for Adam's children.

So what's the solution?

Collaboration! Co-laboring!

At Embrace New Life, we help couples develop the skills and habit of creating solutions that

BOTH LOVE ! IMAGINE a relationship where no one is dragged across a middle ground.

IMAGINE a relationship where each is a vibrant participant in solutions – just like The Trinity!

Need Our Help?

We work with couples from a variety of denominations – Baptists, Methodists, Pentecostals, Church of Christ, Catholic, Seventh Day Adventists, Greek Orthodox, Mormons ...

We are Christ-centered, Trinity-centered, not denomination centered.

We invite you to talk to your partner, share this information, and consider booking an intake with one of our therapists.

Our counseling is NOT for everybody.

Our method of couples counseling does not work for:

- Those who feel their partner is the problem.
- Those who do not make the time for daily introspection and spiritual practice.
- Those who are actively involved with an affair partner.
- Those who hold to religious dogma more tightly than they do the Biblical Christ.

If you think you could use our help,

Call us today at 972.292.7092 or Make an Appointment online at: www.EmbraceNewLife.com!

My Command is This:

LOVE EACH OTHER

As I have Loved You!

Jesus

recorded in John 15:12