

Family Matters

Marriage

MAY 22, 2022

Why get married? What's the point—is it just to make me happy? Scripture reveals a perspective that challenges the status quo.

MESSAGE NOTES AND HIGHLIGHTS

- Married couples have an important place in families, in society, in churches, and the same is true for those who are single.
- Read Genesis 2, verses 21-24.
- The “Leave and Cleave” Principle - a new couple leaves their families of origin and they fully embrace their new spouse.
- “‘For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh.’ So they are no longer two, but one flesh.” | Mark 10, vv.7-8
- “Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate.” | Mark 10, v.9
- Marriage is God’s design for unifying two people in a lifetime commitment as a new family unit.
- Wives, submit yourselves to your own husbands as you do to the Lord. | Ephesians 5, v.22
- Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her. Ephesians | 5, v.25
- Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ. | Ephesians 5, v.21
- This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. | 1 John 4, v.10
- Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. | 1 John 4, v.11
- All followers of Jesus are called to submit to each other and to love the way Jesus loved us.
- The marriage relationship is unique from every other relationship that exists, so it opens the opportunity to love to the greatest extent humanly possible.
- The institution of marriage has a sacred duty for followers of Jesus—to love sacrificially and offer a glimpse into the amazing love of God.
- The best investment you can make in your marriage is to pursue a growing relationship with Jesus.
- If you’re single and you want to prepare to be married someday, focus on developing your character to be loving and humble to the people around you.
- If you’re single and aren’t interested in being married, use some of the freedoms that you have to invest in close relationships and in humble, sacrificial acts of love.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What were some of the assumptions or misconceptions you had going into marriage that now, after some time being married, you’ve learned differently?
2. If you’re single, how do you think about or approach the idea of marriage—is it something you want, something you don’t want now, or something you’re not interested in? Why?
3. What challenges do you have in serving or sacrificing for your partner? Or if you’re single, in loving the people around you sacrificially and selflessly?
4. What is one thing you can do moving forward to love your spouse, the person you’re dating, or the people close to you in a more selfless, sacrificial way?