

God's Purposes for Marriage

It's Complicated - Part 3

May 8, 2022

The best things in life are also the most challenging.

Marriage may be at the top of the list.

Why are so many marriages in shambles?

Sin

Gospel

Jesus gave His life to save yours.

He doesn't just save people. He saves **marriages** too.

Culture's opinions about marriage:

- Optional
- Mostly about sex and physical attraction
- About Me
- Easy when you pick the "right" person

For marriage to work, let the One who designed it define it.

"⁴ ... from the beginning 'God made them male and female.' ⁵And He said, 'This explains why a man leaves his father and mother and is joined to his wife, and the two are united into one. ⁶Since they are no longer two but one, let no one split apart what God has joined together.'" Matthew 19:4-6 (NLT)

Marriage is the relational, physical, and spiritual union of one man and one woman for a lifetime.

God's purposes for marriage:

Life

*"²⁷So God created human beings in His own image. In the image of God He created them; male and female He created them. ²⁸Then God blessed them and said, 'Be fruitful and multiply. Fill the earth ... ' ³¹Then God looked over all He had made, and He saw that it was **very good!**" Genesis 1:27-28, 31 (NLT)*

The ideal environment for human life to grow and thrive is in a Christ-centered marriage between a man and a woman.

Love

"¹⁸Then the Lord God said, 'It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper who is just right for him ... ' ²¹ So the Lord God caused the man to fall into a deep sleep. While the man slept, the Lord God took out one of the man's ribs and closed up the opening. ²²Then the Lord God made a woman from the rib, and He brought her to the man. ²³'At last!' the man exclaimed. 'This one is bone from my bone, and flesh from my flesh! She will be called "woman," because she was taken from "man.'" Genesis 2:18, 21-23 (NLT)

*“That is why a man leaves his father and mother and is united to his wife, and they become **one flesh**.”* Genesis 2:24 (NIV)

Uncle Ben: With great power comes great responsibility.

Sanctification

Sanctification = the process of being made holy.

“My old self has been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me. ... ” Galatians 2:20 (NLT)

“... submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.” Ephesians 5:21 (NLT)

Great marriages are built on two people who have laid down their lives for each other.

Marriage is an invitation to die to self so that something better can come to life.

Pastor Robert Morris: When there is conflict, someone sat up in the casket.

God’s commands for marriage bring about God’s blessings in marriage!

Do you trust God?

Possible To Dos:

Ask for help - thebayouchurch.org/connect

Get married

Counseling

Die to self - You go first!

Give your life to Christ