

WEEKLY WORSHIP GUIDE

February 4th, 2024



Sermon Recap:

The Glory of Marriage

I. Creation & Examples of Marriage

The key to understanding marriage is in understanding the original framework for marriage

a. Good

- Genesis 2:18-25- On the sixth day, God created male and female in his image. He brought them together as one-flesh in marriage.
- Gen. 1:31- Seeing all that he had made (man, woman, and MARRIAGE), he said, "It is good."
- Marriage is good. It is sufficient to meet God's desires for his creation and bring him glory.

b. Biblical

- Marriage is a biblical institution, therefore, we cannot view it through worldly eyes.
- We must let loose of any assumptions or presuppositions we have about marriage and view this Biblical institution through the lens of the Bible.

II. Reasons for Marriage

Heinrich Bullinger's Three Reasons for marriage:

1. Marriage was created for the pleasure of mankind.
2. Marriage was instituted for the creation of children, that mankind may be preserved, and future generations would be raised in the fear of the Lord.
3. First Corinthians 7:2, "because of the temptation to sexual immorality, each man should have his own wife and each woman her own husband."

There is a fourth, paramount reason for marriage presented in Scripture:

- Ephesians 5:32-33
 - Marriage makes a mystery a reality.
 - "Mystery"- the glory of the gospel of Jesus Christ.
 - Marriage is an illustration of the relationship Christ has with the Church.
 - Simply: Marriage is a display of the gospel.

III. Holding Marriage in High Honor

If marriage is a display of the love Christ has for the Church, then it must be held in high honor.

a. Institution

- The institution of marriage must be defended against attacks.
 - Prevalent Attacks today:
 - Declining Marriage Rates
 - Increasing Divorce Rates
 - LGBTQ

b. Your Spouse

- What you believe about Christ will be seen in the way you treat your spouse.

Discussion Questions:

- What does Genesis 2:18-25 teach us about marriage?
- What does Genesis 1:31 teach us about marriage?
- How do we reconcile our assumptions with Scripture?
- What are three reasons for the creation of marriage?
- What is the chief reason for marriage according to Ephesians 5:32?
- What is the mystery Paul refers to in Ephesians?
- How is marriage a mystery?
- Why should marriage be held in high honor?
- What is at risk when the institution of marriage and/or our spouse is attacked?

Application:

- What assumptions do you (or did you) have about marriage before today?
- What has informed your worldview on marriage the most?
- How does it line up with Scripture?
- Would you say that your marriage reflects the gospel?
- How might you better display the love of Christ to your spouse?
- If you were to plan a date to honor your spouse and display a Christlike love to them and the world, what would it look like? What's preventing that date?
- What attacks on marriage do you personally see today in your life?
- How might you defend the gospel in those attacks?

