

WHO NEEDS Marriage?

PART 2: THE POWER OF MARRIAGE

INTRODUCTION

Marriage was designed and created by God. We should trust him and follow his instructions and principles for marriage to be healthy, because it's through the gospel that we get both the power and pattern for marriage.

BIBLE VERSES

Ephesians 5:18

Ephesians 5:21

John 16:14

Ephesians 5:22

Ephesians 5:25

Philippians 2:3

Philippians 2:5

Romans 15:2-3

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. When you get a new device, are you a person who reads through the owner's manual and refers back to it when something goes wrong, or are you a person who throws away the owner's manual and hopes for the best?
2. If you are married, where do you recognize a disconnect between what you want your marriage to be and the reality of your marriage? If you are single, where have you seen this disconnect in the marriage of somebody close to you?
3. Read Ephesians 5:21. Describe the difference between how the world views this idea of submitting to others versus what Paul is teaching here about submitting to others. According to Ephesians 5:18, what is the key to living out the biblical model of submitting to others? How does the promise in John 16:13-14 support this key?
4. Read Ephesians 5:22 and 25. Paul's point here is that each partner is called to sacrifice for the other. If you are married, what are some ways you can sacrifice for your spouse this week?
5. Pastor Will taught that if we expect our spouse to carry the weight of our own significance, purpose, and meaning we are demanding the impossible. Do you agree or disagree with this statement? Why?
6. The main barrier to a servant heart is self-centeredness. All of us are naturally self-centered, but it creeps up in our lives at different times and in different ways. When do you tend to respond with the most self-centeredness?
7. How can you actively fight against self-centeredness in your life?
8. Without the Holy Spirit daily refilling your soul, having a servant heart is virtually impossible. How will you create space to be refilled by the Holy Spirit daily?