

January 12, 2020 am

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“Building a Foundation for Faith and Family” - Ephesians 5:15-33

1. God Designed Marriage

- A. God's plan involves a lifelong monogamous, heterosexual relationship.
- B. Matthew 19:3-6
- C. Genesis 1:27; 2:24

2. The Fall Damaged Marriage.

- A. Genesis 3:16-18
- B. Genesis 3:15

3. We Affirm the Goodness of Marriage.

- A. Paul honored marriage in 1 Corinthians 7 and 1 Timothy 4:1-5.
- B. Why is there so much negativity about marriage today?
 - (1) Some people think marriage is boring.
 - (2) Some people think marriage is too risky.
 - (3) Some people think marriage is too distracting.
 - (4) Some people think marriage is financially draining.
 - (5) Some people think marriage is unnecessary.

4. We Affirm the Covenantal Nature of Marriage.

- A. Three primary views of marriage
 - (1) Sacramental View
 - (2) Consumer-Centered View
 - (3) Covenantal View

“Marriage is an exclusive heterosexual covenant between one man and one woman, ordained and sealed by God, preceded by the leaving of parents, consummated in sexual union, issuing in a permanent mutually supportive partnership, and normally crowned with the gift of children.” (John Stott)

“In a covenant, the good of the relationship takes precedence over the immediate needs of the individual.” (Tim Keller)

B. What does covenant mean?

- (1) Permanence
- (2) Sacredness
- (3) Intimacy
- (4) Mutuality
- (5) Exclusiveness

5. We Affirm the Goodness of Singleness. (1 Corinthians 7:32-35)

6. Jesus Christ Is Ultimate, Not Marriage. (Mark 22:30; 1 Corinthians 7:29, 31)

7. We Must Depend on the Holy Spirit for Faithful and Fulfilling Marriages. (Ephesians 5:15-21)

Conclusion

- A. The Gospel Definition