



NEW LIFE CHRISTIAN CENTER
September 8, 2024

GOD'S DESIGN FOR MARRIAGE

Pastor Dave Larson | Turlock

Pastor Jeremy Moore | Patterson

Big Idea: The covenant of marriage is inspired, created, and designed by God as a model for how much Jesus loves His church.

1. Marriage is a _____ from God.

Romans 1:20 (NLT) For ever since the world was created, people have seen the earth and sky. Through everything God made, they can clearly see his invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature. So they have no excuse for not knowing God.

Matthew 19:4-5 (NLT) "Haven't you read the Scriptures?" Jesus replied. "They record that from the beginning 'God made them male and female.'" And 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."

2. Marriage is a picture of _____ and his relationship with His _____.

See Ephesians 5:21-33 (NLT)

2 Corinthians 5:17 (NLT) ...anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!

Hupotasso

Ephesians 4:11-12 (NLT) Now these are the gifts Christ gave to the church: the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, and the pastors and teachers. Their responsibility is to equip God's people to do his work and build up the church, the body of Christ.



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2. Marriage is a picture of JESUS and his relationship with His FOLLOWERS.

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DISCUSSION QUESTIONS
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CONNECT

What's one of the most romantic marriage proposals you've ever heard about? What's the funniest/craziest one?

ENGAGE

What stood out to you from this weekend's message?

GROW

1. According to Ephesians 5:21-33, what are the specific roles and responsibilities of husbands and wives in marriage?
2. How does Genesis 2:24 describe the union of marriage?
3. In Matthew 19:4-5, how does Jesus affirm the original design of marriage?
4. How does the relationship between a husband and wife reflect the relationship between Christ and the church, according to Ephesians 5?
5. What is the significance of mutual submission in marriage, and how does it foster a healthy relationship?
6. How does the concept of marriage as a new creation (2 Corinthians 5:17) illustrate the transformative power of God's love?
7. Reflect on your current relationship. Are you loving your spouse in a way that puts them first? If you're a wife, how might you affirm your respect and confidence in your husband today? If you're a husband, how are you doing at loving your wife sacrificially? What needs does she have that you might meet today?

CHALLENGE

What practical steps can you take this week to nourish and cherish your spouse, ensuring their flourishing? How can you prioritize their well-being in your daily actions?

If you're facing challenges in your marriage, are you willing to seek God's guidance and prayer support? How can you involve your church community in supporting your marriage?

In what ways can your marriage reflect the beauty of reconciliation and the hope of new beginnings, pointing others to the ultimate source of love and grace?