

# groups.

Notes | February 1, 2026

## Marriage Series: A Profound Mystery

This week, we are answering your questions sent in from both marrieds and singles.

**Married Group:** *"Pastor, in Ephesians 5:21-33, Paul says marriage is a profound mystery that points to Christ and the Church. Could you help us understand exactly what that picture should look like? Practically. What does the passage teach about the husband's role and the wife's role, and why is this relationship such a deep and important picture of the gospel?"*

God's design for marriage is divine, GOD-MADE. While marriage defined in modern culture, is often idolized or diminished, God's design is sacred. The calling in marriage is to be ONE with God at the center. You get to be co-workers in the Garden of Life, while enjoying a mountain-top relationship.

### Singles Group:

*"What are the things that you wish you had known about marriage if you could go back and be single again?"*

Life is hard, but everything worthwhile is uphill! Marriage, God's way, blesses a couple with true companionship through a lifetime of practicing uphill climbs that lead to selfless maturity.

*How do I treat singleness as a calling, not a delay?*

Singleness is no more or less holy than married life. The call to singleness is to be ONE with God and ONE with the body of Christ, which allows for greater devotion to God and His work.

## Key Scripture | Ephesians 5:21-33

"Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ. Wives, submit yourselves to your own husbands as you do to the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife as Christ is the head of the church, his body, of which he is the Savior. Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit to their husbands in everything. Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless. In this same way, husbands ought to love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. After all, no one ever hated their own body, but they feed and care for their body, just as Christ does the church—for we are members of his body. "For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh." This is a profound mystery—but I am talking about Christ and the church. However, each one of you also must love his wife as he loves himself, and the wife must respect her husband."

## Related Scriptures

Genesis 1:26-28, Genesis 2:18,20-24, 1 Corinthians 7

## Icebreakers:

Q: Is playing in the snow a group sport? Why or why not?

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## Key Thoughts and Reflections:

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### I. Rewire to Divine Design (In marriage)

Q: In our key scripture, Paul connects marriage to the Church. How does Christ treat the Church, according to Paul? What are practical ways that we should submit to one another out of reverence for Christ?

Q: Why is marriage considered a sacred covenant?

Q: The profound mystery of marriage is that the Trinity = ONE God; the Church = ONE in Christ; and marriage = ONE flesh. How is God's divine design of ONEness distinct from that of the world's idea of marriage?

### II. Rewire: "You Get To"

Q: In marriage, God invites us to be co-workers in the Garden of life. What rewards have you shared with your spouse as you have co-labored with them? If you are single, what rewards have you witnessed in the marriages of others?

Q: One of the blessings in marriage is that we get to be ONE as companions. How does God reveal His love through us in companionship?

Q: Marriage is hard, but every elevation uphill is rewarding. What is one uphill challenge that you have either experienced or witnessed that taught you the blessing of going uphill together?

### III. Rewire: "You don't Get To"

Q: Re-read Ephesians 5:33. What does Paul say the wife and husband must do?

Q: Considering the answer above, what are some things in marriage that you don't get to do?

Q: What are some ways that you can practically practice verse 33?

## Get Practical

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Paul declared that marriage is a profound mystery that points to Christ and the church. For those who know Jesus, whether single or married, we have the honor of serving as His bride while we wait for the Bridegroom. This week, make a list of the things you get to do as His child. For those who are married, join with your spouse and praise Him together for the profound mystery He has invited you into. Ask God to show you how you can serve one another as Christ served the Church. For those who are single, praise the Lord for His Presence and ask Him to reveal ways you can serve Him and others. If you need prayer, reach out to your small group leader or text prayer to 37748 so we can pray with you.