

Marriage – Making Disciples

Last Week – Husbands & Wives

- Marriage in difficulty
- Fuzzy on meaning and design
- Recovering & restoring God's Terms
 - Headship
 - Submission
- reflection of God – our participation in marriage

Marriage – Making Disciples

“Wives, submit to your husbands as 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 his own body, but he feeds and cares for it, just as Christ does the church— for we are members of his body.

Marriage – Making Disciples

"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. “ 5:23-33

Eph 6:1-4 “Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. “Honor your father and mother” – which is the first commandment with a promise – “that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth.”
Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord.”

Marriage – Making Disciples

1. Making Disciples of Husbands & Wives

- starts with our transformation to being like Christ

a) Important to have right Perspective

- not a rule to observe, a model to follow

- vs. 23 – ‘even as Christ is the head’

- vs. 24 – ‘as the Church submits....’

- vs. 25 – ‘as Christ loved the church.....’

- vs. 29 – ‘just as Christ does the church..’

Marriage – Making Disciples

b) becoming disciples evidenced in my marriage

- as I see Jesus example – live it out first in marriage
- practical place of practice and evidence about belief
- ground for serving, giving up self, submission,

c) God's design intended to be visible

- two become one – together in purpose & intention
- home established with defined roles
- loving each other this way – unmistakable, a witness

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2. Making Disciples – Children

- marriage is for the making of children

- physically – in the design

- a) designed for the making children disciples of Jesus

- ‘These are the commands, decrees and laws the LORD your God directed me to teach you to observe in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to possess, so that you, your children and their children after them may fear the LORD your God as long as you live by keeping all his decrees and commands that I give you, and so that you may enjoy long life.

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“Hear, O Israel, and be careful to obey so that it may go well with you and that you may increase greatly in a land flowing with milk and honey, just as the LORD, the God of your fathers, promised you. Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates. “

Marriage – Making Disciples

- Blank Slate, no default setting
- learn – language, relationship, life skills etc
- careful about what we teach directly
- what we model speaks clearly and directly
 - respect for others
 - humility
 - forgiveness, repentance
 - generosity, hospitality

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b) Life by Intention or Response

- 6:4 – bring up in training and instruction
- parent in response to life
 - stop, don't do that, cut that out, not acceptable
- parent by Intention
 - modeling, clear about values, relationship with
- God's design – home is a disciple making place for all
- place to learn about God, - see lived an example

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3. Making Disciples of Others

- transparent example to others

a) In Family Of God

- You must teach what is in accord with sound doctrine. Teach the older men to be temperate, worthy of respect, self controlled, and sound in faith, in love and in endurance. Likewise, teach the older women to be reverent in the way they live, not to be slanderers or addicted to much wine, but to teach what is good. Then they can train the younger women to love their husbands and children, to be self-controlled and pure, to be busy at home, to be kind, and to be subject to their husbands, so that no one will malign the word of God.

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“Similarly, encourage the young men to be self-controlled. In everything set them an example by doing what is good. In your teaching show integrity, seriousness and soundness of speech that cannot be condemned, so that those who oppose you may be ashamed because they have nothing bad to say about us. “ Titus 2

- clear teaching on allowing insight and involvement
- live in relationship with others that models, speaks
- only pass on what you have

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b) drawing others to be Jesus Followers

- great commission mandate
- clear that others are to see our lives, feel our love
- hospitality – to strangers – those not yet family
- evidence faith in family relationship – tell others about it

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So What

1. God's Design & Cultural Wisdom Often Clash
 - bombarded by different opinions & ideas
 - need to be open to embrace God's design found in Scripture
2. Marriage is a Reflection
 - Christ models our roles
 - We are called to embrace that model – become disciples
 - Primary place that is evidenced - marriage

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3. Making Disciples of Our Children

- intentional about our love and discipleship
- intentional about passing on the why and the what
- modeling correctly for them relationship

4. Being Disciple Makers in Our Context

- allowing others to see within the church
- being in relationship where those who are outside notice