

MARRIAGE SEMINAR
GROWING YOUR MARRIAGE UPWARD
FEBRUARY 24, 2018
Pastor Pete

This mystery is great; but I am speaking with reference to Christ and the church. – Ephesians 5:32

Primary Point: Our marriage can help us grow in our relationship with Christ

1. Marriage can help me understand the relationship He wants with me

- A. My most important relationship is with Him (Phil 3:8)
- B. Marriage reminds me that I am part of the bride of Christ (Rev 19:7-9)
- C. God wants to be intimate with me (Prov 3:32)
- D. God understands everything about me (Psalm 139:2-3)
- E. I can talk to God anytime about anything (Psalm 62:8)

2. Marriage can give me the chance to trust Him more

- A. I can trust that God loves me, even if my spouse does not (Rom 8:35-39)
- B. I can trust God, even if I do not understand everything (Prov 3:5-6)
- C. A wife can trust God even if tempted to be fearful (1 Peter 3:5-6)
- D. A husband can trust God even if he has failed at his role as a husband (Prov 24:16)
- E. I can please God with my faith when the trials of marriage come (Heb 11:6)

3. Marriage can show me how much I need God

- A. My spouse cannot meet all my emotional needs, but God can (Matt 14:16)
- B. I cannot meet all the emotional needs of my spouse, but God can (Matt 14:16)
- C. Christ gives a wife an example of respecting (Matt 26:36-46)
- D. Christ gives a husband an example of loving (Rom 5:6-10)
- E. I need the power of the Holy Spirit to fulfill my God-given role (Gal 5:16)

Discussion

Using the examples above, share with your spouse:

- 1. One way that marriage has helped your relationship with God
- 2. One way you desire marriage to help in the future with your relationship with God

EPHESIANS 5:22-33: WIVES AND HUSBANDS

²² Wives, be subject to your own husbands, as to the Lord.

²³ For the husband is the head of the wife, as Christ also is the head of the church, He Himself being the Savior of the body.

²⁴ But as the church is subject to Christ, so also the wives ought to be to their husbands in everything.

²⁵ Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself up for her,

²⁶ so that He might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word,

²⁷ that He might present to Himself the church in all her glory, having no spot or wrinkle or any such thing; but that she would be holy and blameless.

²⁸ So husbands ought also to love their own wives as their own bodies. He who loves his own wife loves himself;

²⁹ for no one ever hated his own flesh, but [he] nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ also does the church, ³⁰ because we are members of His body.

³¹ FOR THIS REASON A MAN SHALL LEAVE HIS FATHER AND MOTHER AND SHALL BE JOINED TO HIS WIFE, AND THE TWO SHALL BECOME ONE FLESH.

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³³ Nevertheless, each individual [husband] among you also is to love his own wife even as himself, and the wife must see to it that she respects her husband.

EPHESIANS 5:22-33: CHRIST AND THE CHURCH

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