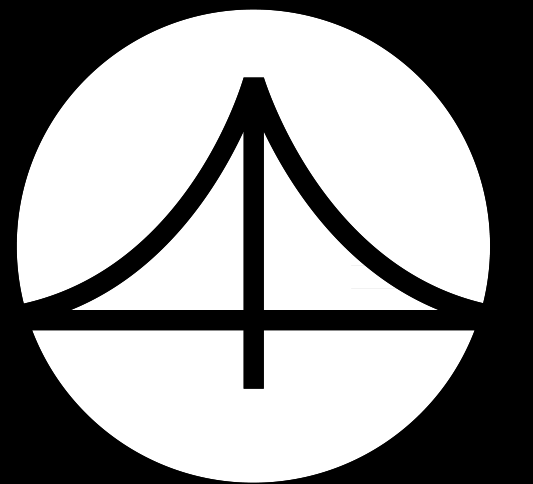


Ephesians: Husbands and Wives

Ephesians 5:21-33



Marriage is to make us glorious like Jesus.

- **The Goal of Marriage**
- **The Struggle in Marriage**
- **The Power for Marriage**
- **The Practicalities of Marriage**

The Goal of Marriage

- To make us more like Jesus
- These commands flow out of the command to be filled with the Spirit, and the Spirit's job is to make us more like Jesus
- Husbands and wives are called to treat one another in such a way that by being married to one another, we become more glorious and marvelous

Ephesians 5:21-33

“It may be possible for each to think too much of his own potential glory hereafter; it is hardly possible for him to think too often or too deeply about that of his neighbor. The load, or weight, or burden of my neighbor’s glory should be laid daily on my back, a load so heavy that only humility can carry it, and the backs of the proud will be broken. It is a serious thing to live in a society of possible gods and goddesses, to remember that the dullest and most uninteresting person you talk to may one day be a creature which, if you saw it now, you would be strongly tempted to worship, or else a horror and a corruption such as you now meet, if at all, only in a nightmare.

“All day long we are, in some degree, helping each other to one or other of these destinations. It is in the light of these overwhelming possibilities... that we should conduct all our dealings with one another, all friendships, all loves, all play, all politics. There are no ordinary people. You have never talked to a mere mortal. Nations, cultures, arts, civilization—these are mortal, and their life is to ours as the life of a gnat. But it is immortals whom we joke with, work with, marry, snub, and exploit— immortal horrors or everlasting splendors.”

–CS Lewis

The Struggle in Marriage

- Paul calls for a mutual submission in marriage that is countercultural in any day or age
- Submission and sacrificial love feel like part of us is dying

The Power for Marriage

- The Gospel
- The gospel reminds women that gospel submission makes you glorious
- The gospel reminds men that God's sacrificial love for us calls us to sacrificially love others

The Practicalities of Marriage

- Submission - giving the husband authority in the home
 - To be given by the wife, not demanded by the husband
- Submission to a husband is under the umbrella of submission to God, and if those things are in conflict, submission to God is the first priority

Ephesians 5:21-33

The Practicalities of Marriage

- For men, what does sacrificial love look like?
 - Often small, daily tasks that require you to lay down your desires for your wife's good over and over
- For singles, be careful who you marry

“While the principle is clear—that the husband is to be the servant-leader and have ultimate responsibility and authority in the family—the Bible gives almost no details about how that is expressed in concrete behavior.”

–Kathy Keller

The Practicalities of Marriage

- The test of whether this is working properly: Is the wife being empowered and equipped to be who she is meant to be?
- Is she becoming more glorious and marvelous each day?