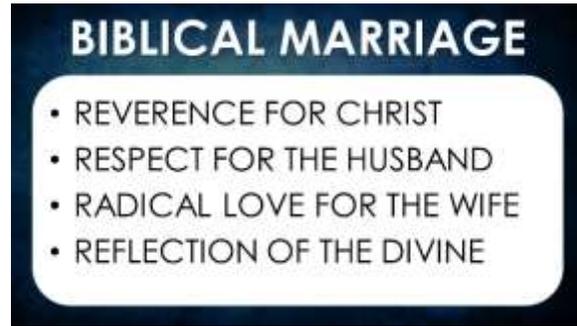


Ephesians Part 13 – Biblical Marriage

May 15, 2022 Discussion Notes

Everyone is encouraged to bring a Bible

(Phone apps are good for reading together in the same translation. Study Bibles give help with interpretation.)



Questions:

1. Icebreaker question: What are some common differences between men and women?
2. The sermon focused on the Bible's description of marriage. What do you remember about each of the main points? What stood out to you or impacted you?
3. Read Genesis 2:18-24
 - a) What did God say was not good? Why?
 - b) Why do you think God would parade all the animals in front of the man as he prepared to provide a "helper" for him?
 - c) Some might see the word "helper" as a subservient role for the woman. The Hebrew word for "helper" is עֲזָרָה (*ē-zēr*). Read the following verses that also use the same word: Deuteronomy 33:26, Psalms 33:20, Psalms 121:2. Who is the "helper" in these verses? What might this teach us about God's intention for marriage?
 - d) Paul quotes Genesis 2:24 in Ephesians 5:31. He goes on in verse 32 to say that this is really pointing to Christ and the church. In what ways does union in marriage point to the church's relationship with the Lord?
4. Read 1 Peter 2:13-17
 - a) Who are Christians supposed to submit to?
 - b) Who has God placed in authority over you? Do you have trouble respecting that authority?
 - c) In what circumstances might you need to disobey those in authority over you? If this is necessary, what should your attitude be? (see Acts 4:18-21)
5. Read Mark 10:42-44
 - a) How are Christians who have authority over others supposed to behave?
 - b) Who has God place you in authority over? In what ways can you better follow Christ's example as you lead them?
6. Spend some time in prayer. Ask God to help you have reverence for Christ and to honor the authority he has placed in your life. Pray for marriages to be healthy and strong. And pray for any other needs in your group.