



Teaching Notes: Ray Davis
August 5, 2012
Life – there’s an app for that!

desert breeze community church

Ephesians 5:21-33 **“Marriage1”**

Single & lonely OR married & bored are not your only options according to God's loving wise plan!

The Secret of Marriage: Reenactment of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. V32 (Gen2:24-25; Rev19:6-10)

- The secret of a great marriage is to do for your spouse what God has done for you in Jesus.
- Jesus' sacrificial love for you is both the pattern & power for you to sacrificially love your spouse.
- The Gospel of Jesus Christ is an amazing dream come true filling us with laughter & shouts of joy! (Psalm126:1-2; 1Pet1:8)

The Power for Marriage: The Spirit-filled Life. V21 (Eph5:18-21)

- The main barrier to a servant's heart is self-centeredness justified by past hurts. (Ps147:3-4)
- To be Spirit-filled is to have the truths about Jesus clear to our minds and real to our hearts.
- Without a continual refilling of your heart your submission to the interests of others will be virtually impossible without being resentful.

The Essence of Marriage: Covenant Love. V31

- The Bible defines love primarily by not how much you get but by how much you give. (1Cor13:4-8)
- Consumer: “I’ll be the kind of spouse I should be IF and TO the degree you’ll be the kind of spouse you should be.”
- Covenant: “I’ll be the spouse I should be whether or not you’re the spouse you should be.” (Rom5:8; Song 8:6-7)

The Mission of Marriage: Friendship with the Goal of Wholeness. vv25-27

- Friendships provide greater satisfaction than anything that money can buy. (Gen2:18; Pro2:17)
- True friends will always let you in (transparency) and never let you down (constancy). (John 15:12-15)
- If you’ll help your spouse to love Jesus more than they love you, then they’ll love you sacrificially. (Matt22:37-40; 1John 4:7-12)



Growing

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- 1)** Why do you think the divorce rate is nearly twice the rate it was in 1960? Why do you think there is an increasing wariness and pessimism about marriage in our culture especially with younger adults? Since marriage is God's idea what is the solution?
- 2)** Read Ephesians 5:21-33. What stands out to you? What is the Secret of Marriage? What does it mean that marriage is a reenactment of the Gospel of Jesus Christ? How does experiencing the Gospel of Jesus Christ as an amazing dream come true filling us with laughter & shouts of joy help us to have better marriages (Ps126; 1Pet:1:8)?
- 3)** What is the power for marriage (Eph5:18-21)? What is the main barrier to developing a servant's heart and how do past hurts complicate it? How does the Spirit-filled life overcome self-centeredness and how important is it to continually keep your heart refilled with God's sacrificial love?
- 4)** The essence of marriage is what (v31)? What does it mean to "hold fast" to his wife? What is the difference between consumer love and covenant love? What should motivate our covenant love for our spouse?
- 5)** What is The Mission of Marriage (vv25-27)? What is a true friend? How would helping your spouse love Jesus more than they love you make them a better lover of you? What was the most significant truth you learned from this study? Pray for the marriages at DB!