

MARRIAGE INVEST IN IT!

27 JANUARY
9AM-4PM

®+HEROCK

SESSION 1: THE PURPOSE OF THE MARRIAGE COVENANT

2 Things we are going to cover this morning are

1. The _____ purpose of the marriage covenant between male and female
2. The _____ and _____ that the male and female are to _____ within the covenant of Marriage.

NOTE: it doesn't matter if we are married physically or not, as we _____ need to come into the _____ of the marriage covenant God has _____ with His _____.

The apostle Paul was _____ and he is the one who _____ on it primarily. It was Paul that said these words.....

2 Corinthians 11:1-3

Paul Defends His Apostleship

¹ I wish that you would bear with me in a little foolishness; but indeed you are bearing with me. ² For I am jealous for you with a godly jealousy; for I betrothed you to one husband, so that to Christ I might present you as a pure virgin. ³ But I am afraid that, as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, your minds will be led astray from the simplicity and purity of devotion to Christ.

To understand the _____ purpose of the marriage covenant between male and female, we first need to have our _____ and _____ to _____, God's _____ and _____ for His _____.

Jesus said to a group of Sadducees in Matthew 22:29 "you are mistaken, not understanding the Scriptures, nor the power of God.

Q. How well do we know the Scriptures and the power of God?

Mark 1:14-15

¹⁴ Now after John had been taken into custody, Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of God,

¹⁵ and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel."

Matthew 13:10-12 'granted to know the mysteries'

¹⁰ And the disciples came and said to Him, "Why do You speak to them in parables?" ¹¹ Jesus answered them, "To you it has been granted to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it has not been granted. ¹² For whoever has, to him more shall be given, and he will have an abundance; but whoever does not have, even what he has shall be taken away from him.

1 Corinthians 2:9-13

⁹ but just as it is written,

"Things which eye has not seen and ear has not heard,
And which have not entered the heart of man,
All that God has prepared for those who love Him."

¹⁰ For to us God revealed them through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches all things, even the depths of God.

¹¹ For who among men knows the thoughts of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him? Even so the thoughts of God no one knows except the Spirit of God. ¹² Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, so that we may know the things freely given to us by God, ¹³ which things we also speak, not in words taught by human wisdom, but in those taught by the Spirit, combining spiritual thoughts with spiritual words.

Q. How hungry are we for what's hidden?

Q. If we have been granted to know the mysteries of heaven, what mystery did Paul say was Great?

Ephesians 5:22-33

_____ through _____ the marriage _____ between Christ and His church, is _____ to understanding _____. This all comes through _____, which truly is the _____ of God.

This _____ of the _____, affects _____ aspect of our relationship with Christ and one another, _____ our _____ human marriages.

1. If we don't comprehend this through the renewing of our minds, we won't understand why the Greatest Commandment is to love God with ALL we are, and because we don't understand we won't be living this out. It's not to love people, the lost, works, gifting's, signs and wonders, prophecy etc.

2. We won't understand why Jesus says we are not worthy of Him if we love a wife, father, mother, son, daughter, brother, sister, even our own lives, more than Him. **Matthew 10:34-39**

3. We won't understand why Paul says in 1 Corinthians 7, that if we have wives we should live as if we had none.

NONE OF THESE _____ WILL MAKE SENSE AND HAVE US _____, UNLESS WE RECEIVE REVELATION OF THIS _____ BETWEEN _____ AND HIS _____.

God's _____ purpose for the _____, is to _____ her into the _____

of His Son, because this is the churches _____ preparation. In other words _____, or _____.

Romans 8:26-30

Our Victory in Christ

²⁶ In the same way the Spirit also helps our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we should, but the Spirit Himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words; ²⁷ and He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

²⁸ And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose. ²⁹ For those whom He foreknew, He also predestined to become conformed to the image of His Son, so that He would be the firstborn among many brethren; ³⁰ and these whom He predestined, He also called; and these whom He called, He also justified; and these whom He justified, He also glorified.

John 17:22-24

Their Future Glory

²² The glory which You have given Me I have given to them, that they may be one, just as We are one; ²³ I in them and You in Me, that they may be perfected in unity, so that the world may know that You sent Me, and loved them, even as You have loved Me. ²⁴ Father, I desire that they also, whom You have given Me, be with Me where I am, so that they may see My glory which You have given Me, for You loved Me before the foundation of the world.

God's _____ for His church, is the _____ purpose for the physical _____, between a man and a woman. God's _____ purpose for the _____ between a man and a woman is _____, maturity in Christ.

Genesis 2:22-24

²² The Lord God fashioned into a woman the rib which He had taken from the man, and brought her to the man. ²³ The man said,

***"This is now bone of my bones,
And flesh of my flesh;
She shall be called Woman,
Because she was taken out of Man."***

²⁴ For this reason a man shall leave his father and his mother, and be joined to his wife; and they shall become one flesh

Our human covenantal marriages are a _____ to a greater _____, they are not an _____ in _____.

Marriage on earth serves as our _____ for our marriage in _____. Unfortunately not all followers realise this.

***Luke 14:16-20 'invited to the wedding feast but say no thanks - how ironic is that?
Parable of the Dinner***

¹⁶ But He said to him, "A man was giving a big dinner, and he invited many;" ¹⁷ and at the dinner hour he sent his slave to say to those who had been invited, 'Come; for everything is ready now.' ¹⁸ But they all alike began to make excuses. The first one said to him, 'I have bought a piece of land and I need to go out and look at it; please consider me excused.' ¹⁹ Another one said, 'I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I am going to try them out; please consider me excused.' ²⁰ Another one said, 'I have married a wife, and for that reason I cannot come.'

Matthew 19:3-8, 10

³ Some Pharisees came to Jesus, testing Him and asking, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife for any reason at all?" ⁴ And He answered and said, "Have you not read that He who created them from the beginning made them male and female, ⁵ and said, 'For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh'? ⁶ So they are no longer two, but one flesh. What therefore God has joined together, let no man separate." ⁷ They said to Him, "Why then did Moses command to give her a certificate of divorce and send her away?" ⁸ He said to them, "Because of your hardness of heart Moses permitted you to divorce your wives; but from the beginning it has not been this way.

¹⁰ The disciples said to Him, "If the relationship of the man with his wife is like this, it is better not to marry."

I wonder how many marriages would be on fire spiritually, if we knew His Way from the beginning?

I wonder how many hard hearts could be prevented, if we as His people knew His Way from the beginning?

I wonder how different our marriages would look if we receive His Way going forward?

I wonder the impact our marriages would have today and tomorrow on the lives of those around us, if we received His Way.

God's _____ purpose for the _____ between a man and a woman is _____, maturity in Christ.

Session 1 Questions:

1. What impacted you the most about what you have just heard and why?
2. Why is having a revealed understanding about the marriage covenant between God and His church foundational to our relationship with Him and one another?
3. How do you think a revealed understanding of this mystery would impact your personal life and your physical marriage?

If you have this revealed understanding of the great mystery of marriage, share with the group the impact it is having on your life and the life of those around you.