



DISCIPLE DEVELOPMENT MONTH

God's Design for Gender, Sex, and Marriage

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God's design of marriage and sex

Week 2 || January 16, 2024

1. **God's design of marriage between a man and a woman** Gen 1:27-28, Gen 2:20-24, Matthew 19:4-6 (Mark 10:6-9)
 - a. **God creates Marriage**
 - b. **Mankind's identity is rooted in the Image of God, His mandates, and ultimately in our union with Christ.**
 - c. **Mankind's relationships**
 - i. We are designed for relationship because God is a relational God.
 - ii. Man is created in His image, and designed for relationship with God and others
 - iii. Adam is created alone, and it was not good *Gen 2:18*
 - iv. God's redemptive plan is to restore relationship with us.

What is God's design for marriage?

1. **Designed to Glorify God through Sanctification**
2. **To fulfill the Creation Mandate**

- i. God's design was for 1 man and 1 woman to bear children and subdue the earth.
 1. A marriage between a man and a woman is the best environment that kids could grow up in.
- ii. **What is God's design for sex?**
 1. **Sex is designed for marriage:**
 - a. Covenant renewal ceremony
 - b. Wedding gift

In the Bible, there are only two types of sexual acts: 1) Consensual, monogamous sexual acts between a male husband and a female wife in Biblical marriage. 2) Sinful sexual acts.

2. Sex is for pleasure

- a. Song of Solomon
- b. *Prov 5:15-19*

3. Sex is for procreation

- a. "A quiver full is a Godly thing."

4. Sex is for intimacy

- a. "Mingling of Souls"
- b. Intimacy is comfort *2 Samuel 12:24*

5. Sex is about serving the other.

- a. 1 Cor 7:4

3. Reflect the relationship of Jesus and His Church *Eph 5:22-33*

- The mystery of marriage is about reflecting the perfect picture of Jesus and his Church.
 - i. Our genders and our roles reflect God uniquely.
- Each person in the marriage gets to reflect the relationship between Christ and His Church
 - i. **Headship (Eph 5)**
 - 1. **Sin:** "Sinful Dominance or "passivity"
 - 2. Christ is head over his church, leads her in grace and truth, and lovingly lays down his life to save her.
 - ii. **Submission: (Phil 2)**
 - 1. **Sin:** "Passively submissive" or "usurping leadership."
 - 2. Christ *did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant,*
- **Jesus fulfills and reflects both of the roles of marriage. Phil 2:5-9**

Distortions:

1. Divorce

- i. According to Malachi 2:14, God "hates divorce".

2. Polygamy

- a. Important difference between what God commands and what people did.

3. Sexual immorality (Porneia)

4. Homosexuality ("What does the Bible really teach about Homosexuality?" By Kevin Deyoung)

- 1. Men and women were divinely designed to complement one another.

2. "The nature of the one-flesh union presupposes two persons of the opposite sex."
3. Only two persons of the opposite sex can fulfill God's design for procreation
4. Jesus reinforces the normativity of the Genesis account Mt 19:4-6;
5. The redemptive-historical significance of marriage as a divine symbol in the Bible only works if the marital couple is a complimentary pair.
 - a. Eph 5 explains a complimentary role between Christ and his bride which are obviously different and unique.
6. Marriage is also designed to point us towards the future.