

- I. The Gospel and Marriage
- a. We have no finish our singleness portion for our series but before we move to relationship and courtship we need to have a right view of marriage first.
 - b. Purpose: Today we will see four truths needed to see marriage properly and see how beautiful God's design of Christian marriage is!
 - c. Truth #1: The Gospel reveals a greater purpose of marriage!
 - i. In talking about marriage, Paul draws the connection of marriage to Christ and the church: *"This mystery is great; but I am speaking with reference to Christ and the church"* (Ephesians 5:32)
 1. Remember the church is the result of Christ's work and the Gospel declares the good news of Christ's work in saving sinners including those in the church!
 - ii. There will be a future marriage in heaven one day: *"Then I heard something like the voice of a great multitude and like the sound of many waters and like the sound of mighty peals of thunder, saying, 'Hallelujah! For the Lord our God, the Almighty, reigns. 7 Let us rejoice and be glad and give the glory to Him, for the marriage of the Lamb has come and His [a]bride has made herself ready.' 8 It was given to her to clothe herself in fine linen, bright and clean; for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints. 9 Then he *said to me, 'Write, 'Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb.'"* And he *said to me, *"These are true words of God."* (Revelation 19:6-9)
 1. This is the description of the church in heaven!
 2. All this is because of the Gospel!
 - iii. This is contrary to the way the world view marriage where it is only for:
 1. Having company
 2. Self-happiness
 3. Happiness of spouse
 4. Having kids
 5. Having sex
 - iv. **The ultimate purpose of Christian marriages is to show the world through one's life and marriage the Gospel!**
 - d. Truth #2 The Gospel removes a man-centered and selfish approach towards marriage, since the purpose of Marriage is to mirror the Gospel of Christ and the Church
 - i. As Christ loves the church, therefore a husband ought to have sacrificial love for his wife: *"Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself up for her,"* (Ephesians 5:25)
 - ii. As the church submits to Christ, therefore a wife ought to submit to her husband: *"22 Wives, be subject to your own husbands, as to the Lord. 23 For the husband is the head of the wife, as Christ also is the head of the church, He Himself being the Savior of the body. 24 But as the church is subject to Christ, so also the wives ought to be to their husbands in everything."* (Ephesians 5:22-24)
 - iii. Application: If you know how great the reality of the Gospel, you would have your marriage be Christ-centered instead of self-centered or centered on your spouse!
 - e. Truth #3: The Gospel gives us the motivation for godly communications in marriage!
 - i. Good and godly communication is important in marriage; think of how many times fights in marriage has occurred because of ungodly ways of speech. Here's what God has to say:
 1. The command: *"Let no unwholesome word proceed from your mouth, but only such a word as is good for edification according to the need of*

the moment, so that it will give grace to those who hear.” (Ephesians 4:29)

2. The prohibition: *“Let no unwholesome word proceed from your mouth, but only such a word as is good for edification according to the need of the moment, so that it will give grace to those who hear.” (Ephesians 4:31)*
 - ii. We often know those commands and prohibition are important, but how can the Gospel help with the motivation? The doctrine of redemption: *“Do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.” (Ephesians 4:30)*
 - iii. Application: You are redeemed! Your salvation is secure! Your salvation’s security is the work of the Spirit; so out of gratitude you seek not to grieve Him.
- f. Truth #4: The Gospel moves us to be both kind and forgive one’s spouse: *“Be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving each other, just as God in Christ also has forgiven you.” (Ephesians 4:32)*
 - i. How many marriages have been destroyed by bitterness because of lack of forgiveness!
 - ii. But the Gospel helps us forgive because we are forgiven!