

TODAY'S MESSAGE:

HAPPILY EVER AFTER?

“Debunking the Marriage Myth”



Sunday September 16, 2012 Ephesians 5:21-33

“For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh.” (Ephesians 5:31)

I. Popular MYTHS about Marriage ...

1. “The PAST is the PAST”

Truth: Your present will someday become your past, and your past will eventually show up in your future.

2. “People who are MARRIED have MARRIAGE problems”

Truth: People who have PROBLEMS get married!

Marriage brings to the SURFACE things that were there all along.

3. “If I marry the RIGHT PERSON everything will be good”

Truth: You did marry the WRONG person.

The kind of “right person” you’re looking for DOESN'T EXIST

“for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.” (Romans 3:23)

Better Question to Ask: Am I BECOMING the right person?

II. The BIBLICAL View of Marriage ...

“Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.” (Ephesians 5:21)

Truth: Marriage is a relationship of MUTUAL submission.

We must have an AUTHENTIC, ONGOING, VIBRANT relationship with Jesus first!

1. **Husbands: LOVE your wife as CHRIST loves the Church.**

Husbands are to be willing to DIE as Christ laid down His life.

2. **Wives: SUBMIT to your husband as to the Lord.**

Wives are to be willing to SERVE the way Christ served.

Truth: Biblical Love is not SELF-SERVING. It's modeled on Christ.

For Reflection / Action: What myths about marriage have you been accustomed to believing? Why? How does your past affect your current relationship? How does marriage reveal personal problems? What are the things that you think make a person the “right person” for you? Is that necessarily the person that God may want for you? What does it mean to Submit like Christ? What does it mean to Love like Christ?

Message uses materials by Rod Stafford (Fairfax Community Church). All Scripture, unless otherwise noted, is taken from the “New International Version” (NIV84).