

Discuss this together

1. What do you think most applies to YOU

Building marriages that honour Christ

Hebrews 13:4, "Let marriage be held in honour among all, and let the marriage bed be undefiled, for God will judge the sexually immoral and adulterous."

1. Christians are called to build CHRISTIAN marriages

Relate as CHRISTIANS!

LOVE - Matthew 22:37-39, "And he said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.
³⁸ This is the great and first commandment. ³⁹ And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself."

DIFFERENCES ARE GOOD! - 1 Corinthians 12:4,7, "There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit... Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good."

HONOUR - Romans 12:10, "Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honour"

EMPATHY - Romans 12:15, "Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn."

Learn from our communion with Christ: "covenant"

"I will be your God and you will be my people" (e.g. Hosea 2:23).

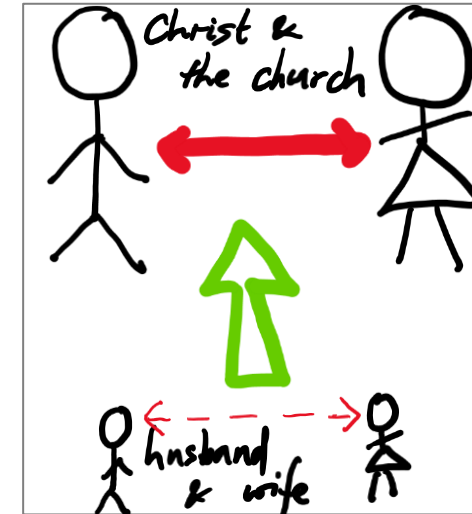
NEXT WEEK

= Raising children in the church... a job for the WHOLE church

2. A Christian marriage is connected to the CHURCH

Marriage fits into church – not the other way round

Matthew 22:30, “For in the resurrection they neither marry nor are given in marriage, but are like angels in heaven.”



Fold marriage & family into the church

Do marriage as a ministry team

e.g. Priscilla and Aquila - Acts 18:2-3,26 & Romans 16:3-4

Hospitality stops marriage from being selfish

1 Peter 4:9, “Show hospitality to one another without grumbling.”

Show the Gospel

Ephesians 5:22, 25, 31-32, “Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord... Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her... “Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.” This mystery is profound, and I am saying that it refers to Christ and the church.”

Warning: don't give your heart away to a non-Christian

Warning: 2 professing Christians can build a NON-Christian marriage

Shared pagan values – e.g. Ananias and Sapphira – Acts 5:1,2,8.

Love Jesus most (marriage is not the promised land)

1 Corinthians 7:28, “... Yet those who marry will have worldly troubles...”