

**Providence Reformed Baptist Church - Sunday, April 24, 2022**

**Sermon Series: God's Plan and Purposes for Marriage**

**Introduction – Leave and Cleave – Mark 10:1-12**

**Pastor Phillip M Way**

Marriages are under assault. Where are you? Single, courting, engaged, newlyweds, married, struggling, separated, divorced, widowed? NOTE: Books – Teaching – Preaching – Bible Studies – Counseling

- I. Looking for an Out – vs. 1-5
  - A. Is it Lawful?
  - B. Hard Hearts
- II. Jesus Defines Marriage – vs. 6-9
  - A. From the Beginning – Marriage is a Creation Ordinance
  - B. God Created Male and Female
  - C. One Flesh
    1. Leave – setting a new priority relationship
    2. Cleave – be joined – commitment, stick together
    3. Marriage is the union of one man and one woman for life in a covenant relationship dissolved naturally only by death
    4. What God joins together man cannot separate
  - D. What's Love Got to Do with It?
    1. Love is a decision – a willful act of obedience – the Royal Law
    2. Feelings are fleeting
    3. Actions speak louder than words – James 2:15-16
    4. Communication is critical
      - a. Speak the truth in love – Eph. 4:11-15
      - b. Edify one another – Eph. 4:29-32
    5. Submission – Col. 3:18; 1 Peter 3:1-6; Eph. 5:22-24, 33
    6. Understanding – Col. 3:19; 1 Peter 3:7
      - a. Love – Eph. 5:25-27, 33
      - b. Nourish and cherish – Eph. 5:28-29
- III. Is Divorce an Option? – vs. 10-12
  - A. Because of Sin, Yes
    1. Adultery – Matt. 5:31-32
    2. Abandonment – 1 Cor. 7:12-16
  - B. But the Example is Hosea – Eph. 5:1-2
    1. Marriage is ordained by God (see Gen. 2:18-24)
    2. Man cannot annul it outside of God's Word – Matt. 19:4-6
    3. What is my spouse is an unbeliever? – 2 Cor. 6:14; 1 Cor. 7:12-16
    4. God hates divorce – Mal. 2:14-16 (divorce is always rooted in sin)
    5. If possible, live peaceably – it is not always possible – Rom. 12:18
- IV. Living a Gospel Parable – Ephesians 5:32
  - A. Stages of a Failing Marriage
    1. Wooing – romance, love, excitement
    2. Whining – change, communication, expectations
    3. Wounding – words, or worse
    4. Wondering – could it be better? Is it God's will?
    5. Wandering – lust, laziness, lack of forgiveness
  - B. Stages of a Biblical Marriage
    1. Walking in the Spirit is the Cornerstone – Eph. 5:18
    2. Worship is the Context – Eph. 5:19-21

3. Love – leave & cleave
4. Submission – be a helpmate, respect
5. Serve – cherish, nourish, lead, love
6. Longsuffering and Forgiveness
7. Obedience – obey Christ as head of the home
8. Sanctify and cleanse one another – Eph. 5:26

## **Cross References**

### **James 2:15-16**

15 If a brother or sister is naked and destitute of daily food, 16 and one of you says to them, “Depart in peace, be warmed and filled,” but you do not give them the things which are needed for the body, what does it profit?

### **Ephesians 4:11-15**

11 And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, 12 for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, 13 till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ; 14 that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting, 15 but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head—Christ—

### **Ephesians 4:29-32**

29 Let no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth, but what is good for necessary edification, that it may impart grace to the hearers. 30 And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. 31 Let all bitterness, wrath, anger, clamor, and evil speaking be put away from you, with all malice. 32 And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you.

### **Colossians 3:18**

18 Wives, submit to your own husbands, as is fitting in the Lord.

### **1 Peter 3:1-6**

3 Wives, likewise, be submissive to your own husbands, that even if some do not obey the word, they, without a word, may be won by the conduct of their wives, 2 when they observe your chaste conduct accompanied by fear. 3 Do not let your adornment be merely outward—arranging the hair, wearing gold, or putting on fine apparel— 4 rather let it be the hidden person of the heart, with the incorruptible beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is very precious in the sight of God. 5 For in this manner, in former times, the holy women who trusted in God also adorned themselves, being submissive to their own husbands, 6 as Sarah obeyed Abraham, calling him lord, whose daughters you are if you do good and are not afraid with any terror.

### **Ephesians 5:22-24**

22 Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. 23 For the husband is head of the wife, as also Christ is head of the church; and He is the Savior of the body. 24 Therefore, just as the church is subject to Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in everything.

### **Ephesians 5:33**

33 Nevertheless let each one of you in particular so love his own wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects her husband.

### **Colossians 3:19**

19 Husbands, love your wives and do not be bitter toward them.

### **1 Peter 3:7**

7 Husbands, likewise, dwell with them with understanding, giving honor to the wife, as to the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life, that your prayers may not be hindered.

### **Ephesians 5:25-27**

25 Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her, 26 that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word, 27 that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish.

### **Ephesians 5:28-29**

28 So husbands ought to love their own wives as their own bodies; he who loves his wife loves himself. 29 For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as the Lord does the church.

### **Ephesians 5:33 - repeat**

### **Matthew 5:31-32**

31 “Furthermore it has been said, ‘Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce.’ 32 But I say to you that whoever divorces his wife for any reason except sexual immorality causes her to commit adultery; and whoever marries a woman who is divorced commits adultery.

### **1 Corinthians 7:12-16**

12 But to the rest I, not the Lord, say: If any brother has a wife who does not believe, and she is willing to live with him, let him not divorce her. 13 And a woman who has a husband who does not believe, if he is willing to live with her, let her not divorce him. 14 For the unbelieving husband is sanctified by the wife, and the unbelieving wife is sanctified by the husband; otherwise your children would be unclean, but now they are holy. 15 But if the unbeliever departs, let him depart; a brother or a sister is not under bondage in such cases. But God has called us to peace. 16 For how do you know, O wife, whether you will save your husband? Or how do you know, O husband, whether you will save your wife?

### **Ephesians 5:1-2**

5 Therefore be imitators of God as dear children. 2 And walk in love, as Christ also has loved us and given Himself for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet-smelling aroma.

### **Matthew 19:4-6**

4 And He answered and said to them, “Have you not read that He who made them at 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 then, they are no longer two but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let not man separate.”

## **2 Corinthians 6:14**

14 Do not be unequally yoked together with unbelievers. For what fellowship has righteousness with lawlessness? And what communion has light with darkness?

## **1 Cor. 7:12-16**

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## **Malachi 2:14-16**

14 Yet you say, "For what reason?" Because the Lord has been witness Between you and the wife of your youth, With whom you have dealt treacherously; Yet she is your companion And your wife by covenant. 15 But did He not make them one, Having a remnant of the Spirit? And why one? He seeks godly offspring. Therefore take heed to your spirit, And let none deal treacherously with the wife of his youth. 16 "For the Lord God of Israel says That He hates divorce, For it covers one's garment with violence," Says the Lord of hosts. "Therefore take heed to your spirit, That you do not deal treacherously."

## **Romans 12:18**

If it is possible, as much as depends on you, live peaceably with all men.

## **Ephesians 5:32**

32 This is a great mystery, but I speak concerning Christ and the church.

## **Ephesians 5:18-21**

18 And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit, 19 speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord, 20 giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, 21 submitting to one another in the fear of God.

## **Ephesians 5:26**

26 that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word,