

## SUNDAY MESSAGES

### LEARNING HOW TO CLEAVE

7/10/2022

Text: Various

Theme: What does it look like to cleave?

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Genesis 2 God's view of marriage – leaving... cleaving

Malachi 2 God's view of divorce – treachery, abomination, hates putting away, still views as wife...

Keys to the “exception clause” (Matt. 19; Mark 12)

Speaking to Jews

Speaking about the betrothal period (legally binding)

Fornication isn't adultery

“Wife” is used for woman of all ages (context)

Joseph's wife was Mary before they were married

### **Doesn't the Lord want me to be happy?**

We assume in asking that questions that we can't be happy without being married. **Does marriage equal happiness?**

### **The need for sacrificial, biblical love**

✠ One of the hardest things is to love someone that you don't feel like loving after what they have done

So, let's talk about what no one wants to talk about – **What do you do when my spouse sins?**

Confront and confess

**Offending spouse** – Get counseling

Ask for accountability

Grow and change

Be truthful

Understand their struggle

**Offended spouse**

encourage & support

Don't ask them to promise you...

### **How can I ever trust them again?**

✠ It isn't a matter of trusting them (God never commanded that) it is a matter of:

Am I to love them?

Am I to forgive them?

**Only God is trustworthy – worthy of trust**

### **The importance of our responsibility to cleave**

If God made us “one flesh” then why do we have to cleave?

Cleave – to be glued to, join closely to

Cleaving has the idea of being faithful to

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### **What does cleaving look like?**

Building an emotional, spiritual and physical bond

Fulfilling your responsibilities in marriage (Eph 5:22-26)

**An unbiblical view of submission leads to abuse**

Submitting isn't the same as obeying

**You obey an authority; you submit to an equal**

Submission requires: love, respect and a willingness to yield.

Obedience doesn't require any of them

Wives are only to submit to their “own husband” (Eph 5:22). So this is only to be done in a protective relationship

**Husbands become abusive when:**

Your wife can't express her feelings or opinions

Your tone lacks love and compassion

When you command your wife like a child

There is an absence of love & protective leadership