

God's
Good
Design
for
Marriage



WEEKLY WORSHIP TOOLS
ISSUE 18: JULY 18 – JULY 25, 2020

PURPOSE AND SUGGESTED USE

Crosspoint Church has set out to produce an issue of Weekly Worship Tools for the encouragement and resourcing of our church body each week. Each Saturday, this guide is published with the hope that it will aid you in being transformed by the gospel and living daily on mission.

This document is structured in two categories: weekend resources and weekday resources. Sundays we gather for Corporate Worship and sit under the teaching of the Word of God as we fellowship together. The first guide listed in the Table of Contents below, "Prepare for Worship," is produced to stir our meditation on the passage to be preached, causing us to prepare our hearts for the message on Sunday. Additionally, we have provided you with a basic outline of the "Sermon Notes" to guide your attention and participation with the Pastor as he works through the message. Furthermore, a set of lyric sheets have been added following the "Prepare for Worship" for your convenience as you join in worship through song on Sunday morning.

A Sermon Discussion Guide and a Daily Worship Guide are provided for individual or household worship through the week. The focus of Monday and Tuesday is an opportunity to look back at the Scripture preached on Sunday. Each Wednesday we will read an Old Testament passage that connects to what is being communicated through our sermon Scripture. Thursday's focus is observing a Psalm that relates to this passage and our immediate context. Fridays begin looking forward to the coming Sunday as we observe the Scripture passage for the coming Corporate Worship gathering.

It is recommended that you use this set of tools alongside your Bible with a way to record any notes, insights, or questions (i.e. in a journal, word doc, etc.) you may have while you study.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

FOR SATURDAY - SUNDAY

4-5	PREPARE FOR WORSHIP
6-8	SONG LYRIC SHEETS
9-11	SERMON NOTES
12	KIDS SERMON NOTES

FOR MONDAY - FRIDAY

13	SERMON DISCUSSION QUESTIONS
14-18	DAILY WORSHIP GUIDE

PREPARE FOR WORSHIP

Last Sunday, Will Jackson preached the sermon: “Our Living Hope,” from John 11:17-44, where Jesus proclaims: “I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die” (John 11:25–26). We considered the truth that the resurrection reminds us God is always good and always perfect; therefore, we must always trust his good and perfect plan for our lives.

Read: Genesis 2:18–24

This Sunday, Dr. Jim Newheiser will preach the sermon: “God’s Good Design for Marriage,” from Genesis 2:18-24. The concept of marriage has undergone a radical change in our culture, and our understanding of the divine origin and biblical definition of marriage is vital. Whether single or married, we must pursue God’s design in our understanding, support, and practice of marriage because the revelation of Christ’s relationship with his church is ultimately at stake. As you prepare your heart for Sunday worship, let these words from John Piper aid you in further reflection upon this truth.

Reflect: “The Mystery of Marriage”

“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” (Ephesians 5:31–32).

Here in Ephesians 5:31 Paul is quoting Genesis 2:24, which Moses spoke — and Jesus said God spoke through Moses (Matthew 19:5) — “A man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh.” Paul says this word of God, spoken before the fall into sin, is a reference to Christ and the church and contains therefore a great mystery.

What this implies is that when God engaged to create man and woman and to ordain the union of marriage, he didn’t roll the dice or draw straws or flip a coin as to how they might be related to each other. He patterned marriage very purposefully after the relationship between his Son and the church, which he had planned from all eternity.

Therefore, marriage is a mystery — it contains and conceals a meaning far greater than what we see on the outside. God created man male and female and ordained marriage so that the eternal covenant relationship between Christ and his church would be imaged forth in the marriage union.

PREPARE FOR WORSHIP

The inference Paul draws from this mystery is that the roles of husband and wife in marriage are not arbitrarily assigned but are rooted in the distinctive roles of Christ and his church.

Those of us who are married need to ponder again and again how mysterious and wonderful it is that God grants us in marriage the privilege to image forth stupendous divine realities infinitely bigger and greater than ourselves.

This mystery of Christ and the church is the foundation of the pattern of love that Paul describes for marriage. It is not enough to say that each spouse should pursue his or her own joy in the joy of the other. That is true. But it is not enough. It is also important to say that husbands and wives should consciously copy the relationship God intended for Christ and the church. That is, each should seek to live after the distinctive model of God's pure and glad design for Christ and the church.

I hope you will take this seriously whether you are single or married, old or young. The revelation of the covenant-keeping Christ and his covenant-keeping church hangs on it.

“The Mystery of Marriage,” Devotional by John Piper, from desiringgod.org.

Sing: Song List for Sunday

1. “Faithful Now,” by Vertical Worship
2. “How Great Thou Art,” Arr. Shane & Shane
3. “Christ Our Hope in Life and Death,” Arr. Shane & Shane

Listen to these and our Daily Worship song suggestions on our Spotify playlist: Weekly Worship Song List (<https://open.spotify.com/playlist/7jN7dCyT2lfhya4k7CFIja?si=i6pSTxt1S0Cbb2WyNlg1bA>)

SONG LYRICS

"FAITHFUL NOW"

Vertical Worship

(Verse 1)

I am holding on to faith
'Cause I know You'll make a way
And I don't always understand
And I don't always get to see
But I will believe it
I will believe it

(Chorus)

You make mountains move
You make giants fall
And You use songs of praise
To shake prison walls
And I will speak to my fear
I will preach to my doubt
That You were faithful then
You'll be faithful now

(Verse 2)

I am standing on Your Word
I'm calling heaven down to earth
And You will fight my enemies
And this will end in victory
And I will believe it
Yes I will believe it

(Bridge)

And I know that I know You never fail
Yes I know that I know You never will

CCLI Song # 7137533
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SONG LYRICS

"HOW GREAT THOU ART"

Shane & Shane Arrangement

(Verse 1)

O Lord my God
When I in awesome wonder
Consider all the worlds
Thy hands have made
I see the stars
I hear the rolling thunder
Thy pow'r thru'out
The universe displayed

(Chorus)

Then sings my soul
My Savior God to Thee
How great Thou art
How great Thou art
Then sings my soul
My Savior God to Thee
How great Thou art
How great Thou art

(Verse 2)

And when I think
That God His Son not sparing
Sent Him to die
I scarce can take it in
That on the cross
My burden gladly bearing
He bled and died
To take away my sin

(Verse 3)

When Christ shall come
With shout of acclamation
And take me home
What joy shall fill my heart
Then I shall bow
In humble adoration
And there proclaim
My God how great Thou art

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SONG LYRICS

"CHRIST OUR HOPE IN LIFE AND DEATH"

Shane & Shane Arrangement

(Verse 1)

What is our hope in life and death
Christ alone Christ alone
What is our only confidence
That our souls to Him belong
What holds our days within His hand
What comes apart from His command
And what will keep us to the end
The love of Christ in which we stand

(Chorus)

O sing hallelujah
Our hope springs eternal
O sing hallelujah
Now and ever we confess
Christ our hope in life and death

(Verse 2)

What truth can calm the troubled soul
God is good God is good
Where is His grace and goodness known
In our great Redeemer's blood
Who holds our faith when fears arise
Who stands above the stormy trial
Who sends the waves that bring us nigh
Unto the shore the rock of Christ

(Verse 3)

Unto the grave what shall we sing
Christ He lives Christ He lives
And what reward will heaven bring
Everlasting life with Him
There we will rise to meet the Lord
Then sin and death will be destroyed
And we will feast in endless joy
When Christ is ours forevermore

CCLI Song # 7147502

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SERMON NOTES

GOD'S GOOD DESIGN FOR MARRIAGE Genesis 2:18-25



1. Introduction

- a. The concept of marriage has undergone a radical change in our culture (Judges 21:25)
- b. Our understanding of the divine origin of marriage is crucial
 - i. Mankind is not autonomous: we are created by God and we are accountable to Him (Gen. 1:1)
 - ii. Mankind is not merely an animal; rather we are made in God's image (Gen. 1:26-27)
 - iii. Marriage is a creation ordinance (Gen. 2:18-25; Matt. 19:4-5)
 - iv. God designed marriage from the beginning and brought together the first man and woman in a covenant of companionship (Gen. 2:18-25; Mal. 2:14; Prov. 2:17; Ezek. 16:8)
 - Marriage is beneficial for mankind
 - Our marriages are to reflect our relationship with God (Eph. 5:25,32; Isa. 54:5)
 - v. Because God's Word is infallible, timeless and fully sufficient, His design for marriage does not evolve nor change (Isa. 40:8; 2 Tim. 3:16-17)
- c. Marriage defined: a lifelong covenant of companionship between a man and a woman, which has been established by God and before the community

2. Marriage is made in heaven (Gen. 2:18-23)

- a. It is not good for you to be alone (vv. 18-20)
 - i. A shocking statement – “not good” (vv. 18; 1:4, 10, 12, 18, 21, 25, 31)
 - ii. Marriage is designed by God to make you complete
 - iii. Some, however, have the gift of singleness (1 Cor. 7:7-8, 32-34; Matt. 19:12)
 - iv. Some who don't feel that they have the gift of singleness have to wait on the Lord
- b. You need a suitable helper (vv. 19-20)
 - i. Why does God bring all of the animals to the man?
 - ii. No other creature is a suitable helper
 - iii. God made men and women to complement each other in marriage
 - God created gender differences (1 Pet. 3:7)
 - A marriage is an interesting blend of similarities and differences
 - iv. Only a woman can complete a man and only a man can complete a woman
 - v. Does God create anyone to be homosexual? (1 Cor. 10:13; Rom. 1:26-27; Lev. 18:22f)
 - Homosexuality is sinfully contrary to God's design
 - We all know what it is like to be tempted by that which God has forbidden (1 Cor. 10:13)
 - Many believers who had struggled with homosexuality have been transformed by God's grace (1 Cor. 6:9-11)

SERMON NOTES

GOD'S GOOD DESIGN FOR MARRIAGE Genesis 2:18-25



2. Marriage is made in heaven (Gen. 2:18-23)

c. God provides a helper for the man (vv. 21-23)

- i. Why does God choose such an unusual method for creating the woman? (Gen. 2: 21-22; 2:7, 19; 1:3, 6, 9, 14, 20, 24, 26; 3:19)
- ii. The husband should respect his wife because she is also made in God's image (Gen. 1:27; 1 Cor. 7:8-9; 1 Pet. 3:7; Gal. 3:28)
- iii. God made men and women to complement each other in marriage
 - God created gender differences (1 Pet. 3:7)
 - A marriage is an interesting blend of similarities and differences
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d. The first marriage reveals God's design for the roles of both husband and wife

- i. Male headship was God's plan from the beginning (1 Cor. 11:3; 1 Tim. 3:13)
- ii. The woman is created for the sake of the man (v.18; 1 Cor. 11:8-9)
- iii. The man exercises authority by naming the animals and his wife (vv. 20, 23; 3:20)
- iv. The Fall has led to the corruption of marriage roles (Gen. 3:16; 4:7; 1 Pet. 3:1ff)
- v. The gospel makes the redemption of marriage possible (2 Cor. 5:17; Eph. 5:22ff)

3. God gives foundational directives for marriage (Gen. 2:24-25; Matt. 19:5; Mark. 10:7; Eph. 5:31; 1 Cor. 6:16)

a. Leave – Your marriage creates a new family unit

- i. Your marriage takes priority over any other human relationship
 - The parent/child relationship is temporary and changing
 - Grown children still honor their parents, but are no longer in subjection to them (Exod. 20:12; Mark 7:9-13)
- ii. Failure to leave is a violation of God's design – geographically, economically, emotionally
 - Is it ever a good idea for a young couple to live with their parents?
 - Is it wrong for parents to help their married children financially? (2 Cor 12:14)

SERMON NOTES

GOD'S GOOD DESIGN FOR MARRIAGE *Genesis 2:18-25*



3. God gives foundational directives for marriage (Gen. 2:24-25; Matt. 19:5; Mark. 10:7; Eph. 5:31; 1 Cor. 6:16)

b. Cleave – A husband and wife are joined in a lifelong covenant of companionship

- i. Marriage is a covenant commitment
- ii. Divorce is a sinful violation God's design (Matt. 19:3-9; Mal. 2:14-16)
- iii. God allows protection for the innocent party when their spouse violates the marriage covenant through adultery or abandonment (Matt. 5:32; 1 Cor. 7:15-16)
- iv. Some Christians, by faith, stay in hard marriages (Ps. 15:4; Prov. 3:5-6)
- v. Some hard marriages are transformed by God's grace
- vi. It is not enough to merely remain legally married
- vii. Marriage is designed by to be the most personally intimate of human relationships (Mal. 2:14; Song of Solomon)
- viii. Emotional intimacy, including flirtation, with anyone other than your spouse violates your marriage vows

c. One flesh – The sexual union is designed by God to be a blessing within marriage

- i. The sexual union is the sign of covenant commitment of marriage
- ii. The sexual union is designed by God to produce the blessing of children (Gen. 1:28; Ps. 127)
- iii. The sexual union is given by God for the enjoyment of both husband and wife (Prov. 5:8-9; Heb. 13:4; Song of Solomon 1:1ff; Deut. 24:5)
- iv. Any sexual expression outside of marriage is a sinful and destructive misuse of God's gift – adultery, fornication, cohabitation, homosexuality, lust, etc. (Heb. 13:4; Eph. 5:5; 1 Cor. 6:9, 15-20; 7:4; Exod. 20:14; Prov. 7:27; Matt. 5:27-28; Job. 31:1; Rom. 1:26-27; Lev. 18:22-25; 20:13, 15; Deut. 22:5)
- v. Sexual sin is a heart problem (Mark 7:21-23; Prov. 4:23; Gen. 39:9)
- vi. God judges sexual sin (Heb. 13:4; 1 Cor. 6:9f; Prov. 5:20-21; 6:26, 32-33; Rom. 1:27, 32)
- vii. Neglecting one's spouse's sexual needs is a violation of God's design (1 Cor. 7:3-5)

4. Concluding applications



Sermon Notes



What book of the Bible are we learning from?

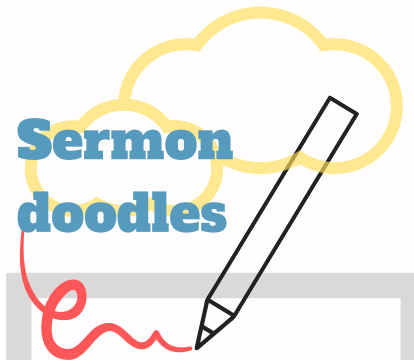


Who's preaching this morning?

What is the big idea of the sermon?

Write down two things that stand out to you from today's sermon.

Did you learn anything new about God, people, or salvation?



SERMON DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

OBJECTIVES

1. Pursue growth together.
2. Care for and connect with one another.
3. Recognize God's good design for marriage and live in light of God's ultimate purpose for marriage.

DISCUSS

- How has your view of marriage been shaped by your life experiences? How is marriage viewed in our culture today?
- Read Genesis 2:18-25. What encouraged, convicted, or helped you from this week's message and passage?
- What problem was presented in v. 18? How and why does God want to provide a solution to this problem?
- What is God's design for the marriage relationship (see vv. 24-25)? [leave, cleave, one flesh] How has sin disrupted this design and made this basic human relationship and desire difficult?
- How does Genesis 2 define the roles and responsibilities of husbands and wives in marriage?
- Marriage is a good gift from God, yet it is not an end in itself. What is God's ultimate purpose for marriage (see Ephesians 5:31-32)?
- We were created to be in community. How can we as the church better reflect this aspect of what it means to be made in the image of God (as singles, married couples, parents, empty-nesters)?

For larger groups, consider using Zoom breakouts for the following questions leading into smaller group prayer time. If using Zoom, you may want to type these questions into the chat.

- In light of this passage, what is one act of obedience the Holy Spirit is calling you toward this week?
- Is there one burden you need help shouldering?
- What is one prayer request you have for personal renewal?

DAILY WORSHIP GUIDE

For Individual or Household Worship

MONDAY, JULY 20, 2020

THE COVENANT OF MARRIAGE

God provided a suitable companion for Adam, establishing the covenant of marriage through their union. The bond made in marriage is more than a human contract – it is a permanent covenantal bond made between the man, the woman, and God. Every Christian is able to celebrate the covenant of marriage because it reflects the covenant between the church (the bride of Christ) and Jesus (the bridegroom). Marriage is a picture of the glory to come when the church unites fully with Jesus at the end of the age.

READ: Genesis 2:18-25

- Observe God’s activity in the passage. What is He doing and how does Adam respond?
- How is marriage in our culture different from the way God teaches us about marriage in His Word?
- Read Malachi 2:14-16. What are some aspects of covenant that are described in this passage, especially as it relates to God’s activity in the marriage covenant?
- Is marriage the ultimate goal of life? Why or why not? What is the purpose of marriage, and how does it point to something greater?

PRAY

- If you are married, thank God for your spouse. Pray that your marriage covenant would grow in oneness and in holiness (with each other and God). Ask God to grow your spouse into a stronger disciple of Jesus. Ask God to help you love your spouse more than you love yourself. Thank God for two things you appreciate and value about your spouse.
- If you are not married, thank God for the good design of marriage shown in Scripture and how it points us to our covenant with Christ. Reflect on how the church is the bride of Christ, and ask God to give you joy and contentment in your current season. Ask God to help you hope for Christ’s return above anything else.

SING: “Even So Come,” by Passion ft. Kristian Stanfill

(<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fBHcvJhc6Pk>)

DAILY WORSHIP GUIDE

For Individual or Household Worship

TUESDAY, JULY 21, 2020

GOD'S GLORY THROUGH GOSPEL-DISPLAYING MARRIAGE

Through the Apostle Paul, God reveals how marriage is designed to bring him glory as husbands and wives fulfill their roles that are revealed in Christ's relationship with His church.

READ: Ephesians 5:22-33

- How does this passage describe the relationship that Christ has with His church? Why is this important to know in order to understand the purpose and design of marriage?
- How does this passage describe the husband's role in marriage? Why is it essential for the husband to abide in Christ in order to fulfil this role as God has commanded?
- How does this passage describe the wife's role in marriage? Why is it essential that she abide in Christ in order to fulfil her role as God has commanded?
- How do love and respect play vital roles in a Godly marriage?
- How are you encouraged or challenged by this passage? What is God calling you to do in light of this passage?

PRAY

- Thank God for the great love he has shown us in the gospel and how he has established the foundation for godly marriages. Thank him for godly marriages you have witnessed.
- Ask God to reveal any sin He desires you to repent of in light of this passage in order for you to grow in godliness as a man or woman in Christ.
- Pray that God would strengthen marriages within the body of Christ and that His people would find their full satisfaction in Christ whether married or single.

SING: "Oh the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus," by Audrey Assad ft. Fernando Ortego
(<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1vUhwyjdk8A>)

DAILY WORSHIP GUIDE

For Individual or Household Worship

WEDNESDAY, JULY 22, 2020

MADE IN THE IMAGE OF GOD

The Lord God's likeness was reflected in mankind when He created them. Today, though not completely and imperfectly, humanity made in the image of God exercises dominion and acts in relational community and intimacy.

READ: Genesis 1:26-31

- What actions of God do we see in this text? [His creative work, His commands, His provision]
- How do human beings, male and female, reflect the image of God?
- How does knowing each person is made in the image of God frame how we relate to and interact with one another?

PRAY

- Praise and thank the Lord for His “very good” creation that He accomplished and for His steadfast provision and blessing toward humanity.
- Ask the Lord to help you live well in community, treating others with their inherent dignity as God's image bearers in mind.

SING: “Come Thou Fount,” All Sons & Daughters Arrangement

(<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EYrTqBioaZ4>)

DAILY WORSHIP GUIDE

For Individual or Household Worship

THURSDAY, JULY 23, 2020

THE FEAR OF THE LORD BRINGS BLESSING AND JOY

This Psalm speaks of the provisional and relational blessing found in living under God's authority and power.

READ: Psalm 128

- What does this passage say about those that fear the Lord?
- What are the results the Psalm describes of having a fear of the Lord?
- What is the difference between fearing man and fearing the Lord? How do we know that the Lord is good and trustworthy in all things? (Look back on the Scripture from this Sunday and this week's weekly worship tools studies.)

PRAY

- Ask God to give you a humble submission to His will and His ways.
- Pray that your fear of the Lord would be pure and genuine and that you would fear God abundantly more than you fear man.

SING: "Oh Lord Almighty," by Shane & Shane

(<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Rn7m0D8fbs8>)

DAILY WORSHIP GUIDE

For Individual or Household Worship

FRIDAY, JULY 24, 2020

BELIEVE IN ME

Jesus is entering the final stage of his earthly ministry which involves his farewell, crucifixion, and resurrection. He has just washed the disciples' feet (John 13), announced that one of the disciples would betray him (Judas Iscariot), and foretold Peter's denial. Understandably, the disciples are somewhat confused and troubled by this information. In John 14, Jesus reiterates the amazing truth of His relationship and role within the trinity. Jesus reminds the disciples that believing in Him is to believe in God the Father.

READ: John 14:1-12

- Why do you think the disciples' hearts may have been troubled (v. 1)? What happened in John 13 to create some uneasiness among the disciples?
- In v. 5, Thomas tells Jesus that the disciples don't know where Jesus is going or the way to get there. In v. 8, Philip tells Jesus to show them God the Father. How does Jesus respond to these disciples (vv. 6-7 and vv. 9-10)?
- Jesus makes a point to speak about his relationship with God the Father. How are Jesus' claims exclusive (v. 6)? How are Jesus' claims inclusive (v. 12)?
- What is troubling your heart right now? How can Jesus' statement, "Believe in God; believe also in me," give you comfort?
- Jesus says that whoever believes in Him will do His work and do even greater works than He did! How is this possible? What God-honoring work can you ask Jesus to do through you this week?

PRAY

- Pray about anything troubling you. Acknowledge to God that you believe in His Son and that you trust Him with your circumstances. Pray that God would be glorified by your belief in Jesus' power.
- Pray that God would use the Holy Spirit within you to allow you to do greater works than Jesus. Thank God for the opportunity to do great things for His glory.

SING: "This I Believe," Shane & Shane Arrangement

(<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yuJn6gFLgb8>)