

Unique By Design: Together for the Gospel

August 3, 2025

Bible Passage: Ephesians 5:22-32

Introduction:

Big Idea: Gender differences & role distinctions -- lived out in the context of marriage -- are meant to display the most dynamic truths of the _____.

#1 - Gender differentness and role distinctions serve an epic purpose that even God labeled a

“ _____ ”

(Ephesians 5:32)

**“work...keep” (for
human flourishing)**
Genesis 2:15

**UNIQUE BY
DESIGN**

**“be the helper fit for
him” (completer)**
Genesis 2:18,20

- Practice sacrificial love
- Set spiritual climate
- Nourish & cherish [shepherd] her soul



- nurture life through...
surrender/trust

passivity & domination
will be man's challenge

Pain in childbirth, dis-
ordered desires ***will be***
woman's challenge

- “mega-mysterion” (mega = profound; mysterion = mystery) – is an extraordinarily great, wonderful and profound _____ that can be understood only with the help of God’s Spirit.
- The Holy Spirit’s ministry is to take the truths about Jesus and make them **clear to our** _____ and **real in our** _____.
 - The will of God is (Ephesians 1:18, 3:17-18, 5:15,17)
 - The will of God is not (Ephesians 5:18)

#2 - Gender differentness & role distinctions must be seen through the lens of God’s original _____ not through a cultural lens (Genesis 1:26-28; Genesis 2:15-23)

- The first mention of _____ in the Bible occurs with the very first mention of _____ itself.
- The first mention of genders reveals that both male & female were created with absolute _____.
 - Point: **men & women** _____, **in full participation, receive the dominion/cultural mandate to create an environment for human flourishing.**
- Jesus puts on display the unique design of gender differences when he lived as a servant-head and EZER-subordinate **and man & woman will get the same** _____.

#3 - God planned for gender difference and role distinction to be displayed in marriage where it becomes a living picture of His greatest gift – THE _____ (Eph. 5:31-32)

- This is the secret—that the G _____ of Jesus and M _____ explain one another.

- Jesus models what it means to be:
 - **EZER-subordinate** for the _____ (Ephesians 5:22-24; Philippians 2:5-11)
 - **Point**---Jesus' willing acceptance of this role was entirely voluntary---a **gift to His Father.**
 - **Servant-head** for the _____ (Ephesians 5:25-28; John 13:1-17)
 - **Point** – Jesus modeled servant-head in **dying to self to love and serve the other.**

Truth into Action:

- God's "very good" UNIQUE DESIGN has always been under attack by the enemy. --**Remember that insight!**
- God made you male or female for His fame and your good. --**Live out His purpose in your life!**
- The greatest gift God desires for you is to be saved through a personal response to the Gospel. --**Receive & treasure that gift today and forever!**

Pray first†



Please understand we want to help you know Jesus personally and journey with you in taking fresh steps of obedience daily for Jesus. We would love to pray with you and for you. Join us at the end of the service for prayer or send us your request on the Connect Card and we will lift them up throughout the week.

The reason that marriage is so painful and yet wonderful is because it is a reflection of the gospel, which is painful and wonderful at once. "We are more sinful and flawed in ourselves than we ever dared believe, yet at the very same time we are more loved and accepted in Jesus Christ than we ever dared hope."

Tim & Kathy Keller, *The Meaning of Marriage* p. 48

Table Talk

- This is the final sermon from the series Unique By Design dealing with the topic of gender differentness and role distinctions. What were your big take aways from this sermon series?
- **Marriage is the deepest connection there is, second only to our relationship with God.** Do you agree with that statement? If not, why not?
- Read the quotation in the box by Tim & Kathy Keller and write down your thoughts after thinking through it.

Closing Prayer: Father God thank you for your UNIQUE DESIGN in making us male and female. Your masterful design in having the incubator of all society, the marriage relationship, illustrate the gospel is jaw-dropping. Grow our understanding of your amazing design and purpose. We love you Jesus. Amen!