

Distinct Talk 9: A Relational People

Overview

On Sunday we continued our distinct series looking at our third value that 'We are devoted to living, sharing and modelling life together as family.' We focused in on how we are called to be a relational people. Culture today has made relationships into our very identity, many people today define themselves by their relationship status and find value and purpose in another person. We see from scripture that the longing in the human heart for intimacy and acceptance and are a God given thing but we are looking for them in the wrong place. Our identity, value and purpose can only be found in Christ and from that foundation we can then approach our relationships with a God honouring and healthy mind-set. Scripture teaches us that both marriage and singleness are a gift and to be equally valued within the Church. Both reflect the love of God in a different yet equally important way. Marriage points to the depth of God's love for us, that he is committed to us and has made a covenant with us Singleness points to the breadth of God's love that he is one of unlimited capacity to love, that his love is lavish and available to all.

Scripture

Matthew 19:1-12

Questions

1. What cultural challenges do we face when approaching relationships from a Biblical perspective today?
2. Reading verses 4-6 what do you think Jesus is teaching us about marriage and how can we champion these truths in our Church today?
3. What do verses 7-9 communicate about God's heart and commitment towards Marriage? How should we handle the teaching of divorce in our culture today?
4. What do you think Jesus is teaching us about singleness in verses 10-12 and how can we champion these truths in our Church today?