

Sermon 8.9.26 - Marriage

August 5, 2026

FAMILY MATTERS

Craig Smith • August 9 • Marriage

Biblical marriage is a covenant, not a contract...

It is because the LORD is acting as the witness between you and the wife of your youth, because you have broken faith with her, though she is your partner, the wife of your marriage covenant. Has not the LORD made them one? (Mal. 2:14-15a)

The marriage union burdened by the flesh...

- The wife who ignores God and promotes strife** – “Better to live on a corner of the roof than share a house with a quarrelsome wife.” (**Prov. 21:9**)

- **The husband who ignores God and allows abuse –**
“Husbands, love your wives and do not be harsh with them.” (**Col. 3:19**)

*“He who brings trouble on his family will inherit only wind.” (**Prov. 11:29a**)*

The marriage union blessed in the Spirit...

*** The wife who fears God and promotes good** – *“A wife of noble character who can find? She is worth far more than rubies. Her husband has full confidence in her and lacks nothing of value. She brings him good, not harm, all the days of his life...Charm is deceptive, and beauty is fleeting; but a woman who fears the LORD is to be praised.” (Prov. 31:10-12, 30)*

*** The husband who fears God and nurtures love** – *“Husbands, in the same way be considerate as you live with your wives, and treat them with respect as the weaker partner and as heirs with you of the gracious gift of life, so that nothing will hinder your prayers.” (1 Peter 3:7)*

Genesis 2:24 outlines God’s foundational blueprint for marriage...

“The man said, ‘This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called ‘woman,’ for she was taken out of man.’” (Gen. 2:23)

- **Leave: the principle of priority** – *“For this reason a man will leave his father and mother...” (Gen. 2:24a)*
- **Cleave: the principle of pursuit** – *“...and be united to his wife...” (Gen. 2:24a)*
- **Oneness: the principle of partnership** – **“...and they will become one flesh.” (Gen. 2:24b)*

“But at the beginning of creation God ‘made them male and female.’ ‘For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh.’ So they are no longer two, but one. Therefore what God has joined together, let man not separate.” (Mark 10:6-9)

A great marriage will spend years building on the pillars of love and respect...

However, each one of you also must love his wife as he loves himself,

and the wife must respect her husband. (Eph. 5:33)