

*March 24, 2019*

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**TIME OF REFLECTION**

“‘For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh.’ This mystery is profound, but I am speaking about Christ and the church.”

~Ephesians 5:31-32

“To be loved but not known is comforting but superficial. To be known and not loved is our greatest fear. But to be fully known and truly loved is, well, a lot like being loved by God. It is what we need more than anything. It liberates us from pretense, humbles us out of our self-righteousness, and fortifies us for any difficulty life can throw at us.”

~Tim Keller, New York City author and pastor

“What if some were unfaithful? Does their faithlessness nullify the faithfulness of God? By no means!”

~Romans 3:3

“Faithful, steadfast love is the heart of marriage, for faithful, steadfast love is the heart of the universe. The faithful, steadfast, passionate Lover God calls men and women to show faithful, steadfast, passionate love in their marriages.”

~Christopher Ash, Writer-in-Residence at Tyndale House in Cambridge

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## *Worship through the Word*

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**SERMON** – “Do Not Be Faithless to the Wife of Your Youth” – *Zach Albanese*

**SERMON PASSAGE** – *Malachi 2:10-16 (ESV)*

<sup>10</sup>Have we not all one Father? Has not one God created us? Why then are we faithless to one another, profaning the covenant of our fathers?

<sup>11</sup>Judah has been faithless, and abomination has been committed in Israel and in Jerusalem. For Judah has profaned the sanctuary of the LORD, which he loves, and has married the daughter of a foreign god. <sup>12</sup>May the LORD cut off from the tents of Jacob any descendant of the man who does this, who brings an offering to the LORD of hosts!

<sup>13</sup>And this second thing you do. You cover the LORD’s altar with tears, with weeping and groaning because he no longer regards the offering or accepts it with favor from your hand. <sup>14</sup>But you

say, “Why does he not?” Because the LORD was witness between you and the wife of your youth, to whom you have been faithless, though she is your companion and your wife by covenant. <sup>15</sup>Did he not make them one, with a portion of the Spirit in their union? And what was the one God seeking? Godly offspring. So guard yourselves in your spirit, and let none of you be faithless to the wife of your youth. <sup>16</sup>“For the man who does not love his wife but divorces her, says the LORD, the God of Israel, covers his garment with violence, says the LORD of hosts. So guard yourselves in your spirit, and do not be faithless.”