



Sermon-Based GC Discussion Questions

5/17/2026

Title of Sermon: *The Christ-Centered Marriage (Part 1)*

Main Point of Sermon: The Christ-Centered marriage requires Christ, reflects Christ, and relies on the grace of Christ.

Launching Question:

- What's one piece of marriage advice you heard growing up that turned out to be either really helpful or completely wrong?
- What is one quality you most appreciate in a healthy marriage you've observed?

Primary Scripture: Ephesians 5:21-33

Discussion Questions:

1. Read Ephesians 5:18-21. Why does Paul place "being filled with the Spirit" before addressing marriage roles? How does Spirit-filled living shape relationships?
2. In the sermon, the Christ-Centered marriage was described as "infused with the Gospel," not merely "decorated with Christianity." What's the difference between those two ideas?
3. Read Ephesians 5:22-24. How does biblical submission differ from the distorted versions often presented by culture or abused by sinful people? Discuss this definition of biblical submission: ***a willing disposition to come alongside, support, and follow your husband's sacrificial leadership as you pursue Christ together***
4. How does Ephesians 5:25-30. What specific ways does Christ love the Church, how should that shape a husband's leadership in marriage?
5. Discuss this quote from the sermon: "Marriage does not create sin in us—it reveals it." How have you seen relationships expose sins already present in the heart like selfishness, pride, fear, or insecurity?

Application Questions

6. What is one area of self-centeredness the Holy Spirit may be exposing in your marriage and/or relationships (if not married) right now?



7. Are you more focused on changing your spouse (or future spouse) or allowing Christ to change you? What would it look like to focus on your own transformation more than the transformation of your spouse/others?
8. What does it practically look like to “die to self” in everyday life this week—in marriage, parenting, friendship, work, or church community?
9. In your marriage/relationships, how can you seek to give life through encouragement and grace, rather than drain life through criticism, passivity, harshness, or resentment?
10. How can singles pursue Christ-centered relationships and friendships now that prepare them for future faithfulness, whether in marriage or singleness? How can married couples encourage their single brothers and sisters in this?

Prayer Points:

- Pray that marriages in the church would reflect the sacrificial love of Christ and become living testimonies of the Gospel.
- Pray for humility, repentance, forgiveness, and Spirit-filled love in every relationship—especially where there has been hurt, resentment, or distance.