



GROWTH GROUP SERMON CURRICULUM

A GOSPEL LIFE | June 2, 2019 | EPHESIANS 5:24-33

"This mystery is profound, and I am saying that it refers to Christ and the church"

-Ephesians 5:32

FROM THE TEXT

- Read Ephesians 5:24-33. In verse 31 Paul is quoting which Old Testament verse? The verse starts off with: "For this reason..." What is this "reason" that the text is referring to? Compare and contrast the Old Testament verse with the New Testament interpretation that Paul provides.
- Look over the passage again. Could you share your faith with a non-believer just using this passage? If so, explain how you would lead that conversation. (Practice with the person next to you.)

FROM THE SERMON

- Pastor Chris mentioned that in order for a husband to truly love his wife, the husband must first realize the love that Jesus has for him. What picture of love does the life of Jesus display that a husband should emulate? What would that look like lived out in a marriage?
- What does it mean and look like to be "one flesh" with a spouse? How do you see a picture of the Gospel in this "one flesh" reality?

FOR YOUR LIFE | APPLICATION | ACCOUNTABILITY

- What does it mean to "love someone as your own body?" What are examples of how this should play itself out in a healthy, gospel-centered marriage?
- **Split up into male/female groups. After splitting up, discuss what makes marriage so difficult at times, and what you need prayer for most in your marriage relationship. What can the group hold you accountable to? (Those who are currently not married should still participate in discussion and prayer.)*

PRAYER FOCUS

- 1) Confess that we have fallen short in viewing our marriage as a picture of the Gospel. Confess how we have fallen short and sinned against our spouses.
- 2) Thank God for His grace in making us His spotless Bride, and for His power in redeeming all things!
- 3) Ask God to help the marriages in our church grow into strong demonstrations of biblical love and the Gospel.