

Date: July 10, 2005  
Text: Ephesians 5:22-33  
Topic: Marriage. Joy.  
Week: 3 of 3  
CD #: 05-23

Dr. Mike Fabarez

part 3

# Those Words at the Altar

## *Rethinking Marriage as a Transcendent Joy*



1. Aim \_\_\_\_\_ (vv.28-33)

2. Create \_\_\_\_\_ (vv.22-27)



\_\_\_\_\_ (vv.25-27)



\_\_\_\_\_ (vv.22-24)

*Eph.5:22-33*

<sup>22</sup> Wives, submit to your husbands as to the Lord. <sup>23</sup> For the husband is the head of the wife as Christ is the head of the church, his body, of which he is the Savior. <sup>24</sup> Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit to their husbands in everything.

<sup>25</sup> Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her

<sup>26</sup> to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word,

<sup>27</sup> and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless. <sup>28</sup> In this same way, husbands ought to love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself.

<sup>29</sup> After all, no one ever hated his own body, but he feeds and cares for it, just as Christ does the church—

<sup>30</sup> for we are members of his body. <sup>31</sup> "For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh."

<sup>32</sup> This is a profound mystery—but I am talking about Christ and the church.

<sup>33</sup> However, each one of you also must love his wife as he loves himself, and the wife must respect her husband.

(NIV)

# Application Questions

*These questions are provided for your further study and application of today's message. Thoughtfully writing out the answers to these questions will help to drive home the point of today's message. It is also helpful to discuss your answers with others. This can take place with friends, your family, accountability partners, or ministry groups within the church.*

1. The Bible leads us to the conclusion that your marriage relationship is the most important earthbound relationship you have -- it is also the relationship that has the greatest potential of reflecting eternal and transcendent realities. Time and effort invested in this relationship is well spent and has the possibility of reaping the most profound and satisfying dividends. What will you do to increase your investment in this relationship?

Do you have a *weekly* "date night" with your spouse that does not involve your children? Have you been faithful in taking your date night? What will it take (on your part) to make these date nights more consistent and/or improve their quality?

2. Geographical or physical proximity often has little to do with personal closeness. Many have proved that you can live in the same room with someone and still be millions of miles apart. What will you do to relationally draw close to your spouse this week?

3. What barriers, divisions or rifts exist between you and your spouse that you can work on dismantling this week? How will you do it?

4. As God clearly indicates in Ephesians 5:22-33, you and your spouse have distinct and complementary roles. In what ways have you abrogated or neglected your particular role in your marriage? What are some of the consequences of ignoring God's instructions in this matter?

What can you do to reflect more of the divine and harmonious interaction that God intended for your marriage?

5. Underline a title from the reading list that you will acquire and begin reading.

*We are reading through the Bible in a year! Here is this week's schedule.*

**July 10<sup>th</sup>**

*2Chr.29-31 & Ps.52-53*

**July 11<sup>th</sup>**

*2Chr.32-34 & Ps.54-55*

**July 12<sup>th</sup>**

*2Chr.35-36 & Ps.56-57*

**July 13<sup>th</sup>**

*Ezra 1-2 & Ps.58-59*

**July 14<sup>th</sup>**

*Ezra 3-4 & Ps.60-61*

**July 15<sup>th</sup>**

*Ezra 5-6 & Ps.62-63*

**July 16<sup>th</sup>**

*Ezra 7-8 & Ps.64-65*

**July 17<sup>th</sup>**

*Ezra 9-10 & Ps.66-67*

*Here are some resources which may help you understand and apply the truths presented in this week's sermon.*

*(To view other recommendations by Pastor Mike related to this current series please go to [www.CompassBooks.org](http://www.CompassBooks.org).)*

Fitzpatrick, Elyse. **Helper by Design: God's Perfect Plan for Women in Marriage.** Moody Press, 2003.  
Gardner, Tim Alan. **Sacred Sex: A Spiritual Celebration of Oneness in Marriage.** Waterbrook Press, 2002.  
Glickman, S. Craig. **A Song for Lovers: A New Paraphrase of the Song of Solomon.** InterVarsity, 1976.  
Kostenberger, Andreas. **God, Marriage, and Family: Rebuilding the Biblical Foundation.** Crossway Books, 2004.  
Mack, Wayne. **Strengthening Your Marriage.** P & R Publishing, 1999.  
Piper, John and Wayne Grudem. **Recovering Biblical Manhood & Womanhood.** Crossway Books, 1991.  
Robertson, O. Palmer. **The Genesis of Sex: Sexual Relationships in the First Book of the Bible.** P & R, 2002.  
Scott, Stuart. **The Exemplary Husband: A Biblical Perspective.** Focus Publishing, 2000.  
Sproul, R. C. **The Intimate Marriage: A Practical Guide to Building a Great Marriage.** Tyndale, 1986.  
Wheat, Ed. **Love Life: For Every Married Couple.** Zondervan, 1980.