



Part 2: MALE & FEMALE Matthew 19 Sept. 27, 2020

- 1) Genesis 1:27 presents three foundational truths about our humanity
 - God created human beings
 - God created us in His likeness
 - God created us male and female

- 2) In our design as male and female there is a separateness but a compatibility that is meant to reflect the nature of God.

- 3) For Jesus, the starting point to talking about marriage and how men and women treat one another is to go back to chapter 1 & 2 of the scriptures. Rather than appealing to the culture and ethics of the day, and coming up with some novel idea, Jesus points us back the very beginning.

- 4) In the scriptures, God's ideal vision for marriage is one male and one female as one flesh until death parts them.

- 5) As much as Jesus and the apostles elevate the value of marriage, they also elevate the value of singleness in its role for the Kingdom of God.

- 6) Whether single or married, men and women need to work together to build up families, churches, communities, nations - we need one another. It is important that we use our unique strengths and capacities as partners with one another while respecting our differences. Ultimately we all hold the same value before God as a human being created in His image.

7) It is no secret that the scriptures place a calling on Christian men to step up as leaders within the home and within the Church. The key distinction that makes all the difference is the kind of leadership Jesus demonstrates: servant leadership. This is leadership that serves, sacrifices and honours others above one's self.

:: LIFE APPLICATION

- 1) What stood out in today's message for you? Why?

- 2) How would you define what it means to be: a man? a woman? Which godly men and women have helped you to appreciate the ideals that scripture calls us to?

- 3) Do you see the scriptures presenting a clear vision for what marriage is meant to be? Why?

- 4) How do you account for the widespread disillusionment that many people feel when it comes to marriage and commitment?

- 5) Read Ephesians 5:22-33. How have you come to understand this passage on Christian marriage? In your experience how have you seen this passage abused or honoured? Why does it specifically call men to love their wife and women to respect their husband?

- 6) What has been your experience of singleness in the Church and in our culture? How might churches do a better job of honouring singleness as a high calling from God? (Our FBC leadership would love to hear your input)