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## Sermon Text Discussion Notes 1/26/2020

“The Gospel-Mystery of Marriage” from Ephesians 5:22-33 by Drew Hunter

### Overview

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In this text, Paul discusses how marriage reflects the way Christ loves his church. From these verses, we see:

- 1) The nature of marriage
- 2) The purposes of marriage
- 3) The deepest meaning of marriage

The covenant of marriage between a man and a woman is a picture of how God has been pursuing his bride (the Church) throughout the Old and New Testaments.

### Quotations

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“The creation of the world seems to have been especially for this end, that the eternal Son of God might obtain a spouse, toward whom he might fully exercise the infinite benevolence of his nature, and to whom he might, as it were, open and pour forth all that immense fountain of condescension, love, and grace that was in his heart, and that in this way God might be glorified.” -Jonathan Edwards

### Understanding & Application

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- 1) What was your experience of marriage in the home you grew up in?
- 2) How would you answer if you were asked by a child, “What is marriage?” What texts of scripture support your answer?
- 3) Explain the significance of vows in a Christ-focused wedding ceremony.
- 4) What is the difference between a legal contract and a covenant made between a husband and wife?
- 5) What is significant about the fact that Christ is mentioned several times in this passage about the roles of husbands and wives in marriage?
- 6) In what ways does your marriage need to grow so that it more accurately reflects the mystery of how Christ loves the church?
- 7) Where else in the Bible do we see God’s love for his Church portrayed as a marriage? Find texts in both the Old and New Testaments.