

Sermon Notes: Building a Christian Home Part 2 - Marriage by Pastor Josh

Introduction

- Opening with Psalm 127 - Emphasis on building a home under God's guidance.
- Connection to Ephesians 5 as a foundational text for Christian marriage.

I. The Importance of a Christian Foundation for Marriage

- **Psalm 127:** Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labor in vain.
- **Ephesians 5:21-33:** Detailed discussion on marriage, reflecting Christ and the Church.
- Marriage as a covenant, not just an institution, which mirrors the relationship between Christ and His followers.

II. The Principles of Love and Submission in Marriage

- **Ephesians 5:22-25:** Wives submit to your husbands as to the Lord; Husbands love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave Himself up for her.
- Submission defined not as inequality but as mutual respect and support.
- Love in marriage should be selfless and sacrificial, following the example of Christ's love for the Church.
- The role of love and submission as methods to mirror the unity between Christ and the Church.

III. Scriptural Examples and Commands

- **Genesis 2:** Discussion of the first marriage between Adam and Eve, emphasizing companionship and suitability.
- The sin of Adam and Eve not diminishing the God-established covenant of marriage.
- **Matthew 19:4-6:** Jesus' reaffirmation of the Genesis account, emphasizing the perpetual relevance of the marital covenant.

IV. Practical Implications of a God-Centered Marriage

- Marriage as a witness to the world of God's steadfast love and truth.
- The impact of a godly marriage on children, setting a tangible example of the Gospel.

- The necessity of God's grace in overcoming the challenges within marriage.

V. Conclusion and Call to Action

- Encouragement to embrace God's design for marriage and to reject worldly distortions.
- The role of marriage in the Christian community as a beacon of hope and a testament to God's love.
- A prayer for marriages within the congregation to embody the principles discussed and for couples to continually seek God's guidance.

Scriptural Anchors

- **Psalm 127**
- **Ephesians 5:21-33**
- **Genesis 2**
- **Matthew 19:4-6**