Marriage Matters to Me

Joshua Creel · 1 Corinthians 7:32–35 · Series: **Marriage**

INTRODUCTION

- That in 1978, 28% of Americans thought marriage was becoming obsolete.
- What I want to talk about this morning is a more personal picture. We're kind of zooming in now. That marriage matters to me.
- We're not saying that marriage is a divine requirement, and you're a better Christian if you're married. For that's not true.

1 Marriage Is Educating Me

Ephesians 5:28; Romans 5:8; Genesis 24:64–67

- The past nine plus years have educated me in what real love is and what it means to be truly committed to someone.
- To love her as my own body, as I'm commanded in Ephesians 5 and verse 28, is not just about how I feel about her on a certain day.
- Real love is not selfish. Real love is selfless.
- When the dominant factor in a relationship is feeling, then it's little wonder why so many marriages just don't last.
- What God wants of me is God wants me to be committed to my wife. That when he joined us together, we became one flesh.

2 Marriage Is Completing Me

Genesis 2:18; 1 Peter 3:7; 1 Corinthians 13:4–7

- When God looked at man and said, It's not good that man be alone, I'll make him a helper that is suitable to him.
- I needed someone who was going to bring balance in my life.
- Two of the biggest flaws I would say, about myself are selfishness and impatience.
- You're to live with your wives in an understanding way as with someone weaker since she is a woman. Show her honor as a fellow heir of the grace of life.
- I didn't need someone to cook my food and clean my dishes. But I needed someone to help me become a better person.

3 Marriage Is Helping Me Serve

1 Corinthians 7:32–33; Acts 18:24–26; 1 Corinthians 16:19

- If you are unmarried, you can give wholehearted devotion to the Lord, and you ought to be doing that.
- I think of people like Aquila and Priscilla. That now together my wife and I can follow in their path.

- When Priscilla and Aquila heard him, they took him aside and explained to him the way of God more accurately.
- If you're married, then use your marriage to the glory and the benefit of God's kingdom. If you're unmarried, then use your single stature to the glory and the honor of God's kingdom.

THE CHALLENGE

Don't buy what this world is selling. Don't denigrate a relationship that God has made holy, and he made holy from the beginning.

MY NOTES