

THE MEANING OF “I DO”

Week 1 - Marriage is NOT about ME!

October 5th, 2025

Our culture has a wariness and pessimism towards marriage.

FINDING GOD’ DESIGN IN EPHESIANS 5:

- **Our relationship with God is the defining factor in WHO WE ARE.**
 - We are created in God’s image. *Genesis 1:26-28*
 - God is “OTHER-oriented”
 - God endows humanity with the authority to rule over Creation.
 - He creates gender - *male and female* - each made uniquely but still completely in His image.
 - Marriage is the first human institution that God established.

**Our Reflections of God’s image allow us
to REPRESENT God in all relationships.**

**In the Book of Common Prayer is says
“*God established marriage for the welfare and happiness of humankind*”.**

- Paul’s next section tells us how to WALK in that love he told us to imitate.
- In Ephesians 5:15 Paul starts a long sentence that takes us all the way to verse 21.
 - The key verbs in this sentence are ...
 - Vs 15 - WALK in wisdom.
 - Vs 18 - be FILLED with the Spirit.
 - How do we fulfill those actions?
 - Vs 21 - SUBMIT isn’t a verb but a participle.

GOD’S PLAN FOR RELATIONSHIPS CALLS US TO SELF-DENIAL.

Will you submit to one another in fear of Christ.