

MESSAGE GUIDE

REBOOT: Gearing Up for Paul's Instructions on Marriage



May 6, 2018

CONNECT

- Describe the most interesting/entertaining wedding you've ever attended.

STUDY

This past Sunday the message was designed to serve as an introduction to a section of 1 Corinthians that deals with topics such as marriage, intimacy, divorce and remarriage. Before we dove headfirst into Paul's teaching, it seemed like it would be good for all of us to get our minds aligned with some basic biblical perspectives on the concept of marriage. The following questions are designed to help develop a clearer understanding of God's heart and will regarding marriage:

- Take a look at Hebrews 13:4. What does it say about marriage? What does it mean to hold marriage in "high honor"?
- Read through Ephesians 5:22-33. What counsel does this passage have for husbands? How about for wives? How is a marriage supposed to represent the relationship Jesus has with His church?
- Peter offered married couples advice as well in 1 Peter 3:1-7. What advice did he offer? What did Peter mean when he referred to the wife as a "weaker vessel"? Was Peter being derogatory toward women, or do we not understand his meaning?

- Check out the command given in Deuteronomy 24:5. How might this practice among the Hebrews benefit a marriage? We may not be able to take a year off, but is there a principle in this verse we can somehow apply to our own marriages?

APPLY

- Why is marriage often very challenging? What forces from outside the marriage seem to be at work trying to derail our marriages? And, thinking about ourselves, what issues do we personally bring into our marriages that are not helpful, but often hurtful?
- What's the best piece of advice you have heard about growing a healthier marriage?
- Who in your life has served as a model of a healthy (though, not perfect) marriage?
- Is there anything you can do, even if it's a small thing, to improve your marriage?