**Why Did God Establish Marriage?**

**Genesis 2:18-25 (ESV)**

October 20, 2019

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We are beginning a new series on Marriage. Josh started that last week as we talked about singleness. And we believe that marriage is really the Gospel of Jesus on display. God had a purpose for creating marriage beyond the human relationship itself. And that purpose was to display as a picture, His redemptive love. So we have great opportunities, all of us as a church, great opportunities to lift up marriage whether we’re single or married. We’re going to have the next three Sundays, today and the next two, talking specifically about that marriage relationship. Today’s sermon will be from Genesis 2. And then we’ll look at the role of the husband and the role of the wife. And then we’re going to talk about parents. It is so fun for me to stand here and see little children all through these front rows. Children, I want you to know that three weeks from now, we’re going to talk to your parents. So it’s time to bring your parents three weeks from now and say, “You need to listen to this, about how you can help us grow.” So we’re excited Welcome, children! We’re so thankful for you, too.

***18*** *Then the LORD God said, “It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper fit for him.”* ***19*** *Now out of the ground the LORD God formed every beast of the field and every bird of the heavens and brought them to the man to see what he would call them. And whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name.* ***20*** *The man gave names to all livestock and to the birds of the heavens and to every beast of the field. But for Adam there was not found a helper fit for him.* ***21*** *So the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and while he slept took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh.* ***22*** *And the rib that the LORD God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man.* ***23*** *Then the man said, “This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man.”* ***24*** *Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh.* ***25*** *And the man and his wife were both naked and were not ashamed.*

This past week my wife Kimberly and I traveled with our son Jackson to Orlando, Florida. We were on a top secret mission. Jackson’s girlfriend works at Disney and Jackson chose this past weekend to propose to her. Taylor didn’t know Jackson was even coming to Florida, let alone coming to make a proposal. So everything was a complete surprise to her.

Taylor’s favorite Disney story is *Beauty and the Beast*. So Jackson earlier obtained tickets to a dinner held in the Beast’s castle, where the Beast and Belle are both present. And the rooms in that castle look exactly like the rooms in the animated movie. At the end of the meal, Jackson arranged for a dessert plate to be delivered to Taylor which simply had the words in chocolate, “Will you marry me?” He arranged with Disney for me and Kimberly then to be kind of hidden in a secret place where we could still see them and take pictures of the event, and yet not have Taylor see us. And so we watched and we observed this whole scene. And it was thrilling to us! It was interesting that it was thrilling to the whole restaurant. There were well over one hundred people in attendance at this particular dinner.

Jackson sang a song to Taylor. *Beauty and the Beast* has that great song, *Be Our Guest*. He sang, “Be my bride.” He changed the words, but kept the melody. “Be my Bride, be my Bride. I will love you till I die, there’s nothing in this world can change my mind…so Taylor marry me please,…be my bride, be my bride, please be my bride.” And then after he finished that song, he got down on one knee and he opened a little box and it had this diamond ring in it. And of course, Taylor is just so exuberant and happy, and she said, “Yes!” And when she said, “Yes,” they hug and the whole restaurant just erupts with applause. It was just a very sweet, sweet time. Jackson would later remark, “Mom, this has been the greatest week of my entire life!”

This story prompts a number of questions. Questions like, why would a young man with very little money, spend most of his savings on a ring? And perhaps more interesting, why would a room filled with strangers from all over the world, erupt with genuine, joyful applause when a young woman accepts the gift of a diamond ring? Why would they do that? The answer is because marriage is an amazing gift from God, andpeople all over the world know it. Despite the difficulties many experience in marriage, cynicism about marriage itself has not yet won the day.

Today we open up our Bibles to Genesis chapter 2, where we learn God’s amazing design for marriage. We learn that marriage is not man’s idea; it’s God’s idea.Marriage is not man’s solution to his own problems of loneliness, his own problems of insecurity or instability or sexual chaos. Marriage is God’s good means to bring glory to Himself through mankind. So howdoes marriage bring glory to God? I think there are at least two primary ways that marriage brings glory to God.

First, marriage brings glory to God by showing us in a real practical way that God is a good, good God. He is a God who blesses people. God fills marriage with pleasure for us. There is the pleasure of sexual intimacy, the pleasure of family, the pleasure of partnership, the pleasure of security and stability, the pleasure of shared worship together. Marriage does that. Secondly, marriage brings glory to God by providing a physical picture to us of a spiritual reality. That reality isthat Christ unconditionally commits His love to us and unites Himself to us when we accept Him by faith as our Savior and Lord. And that picture is an awesome picture! It brings glory to God wherever it is displayed in Jesus’ church.

The main idea we’re going to trace through Genesis 2 is that we worship God by rejoicing in His design and His instructions for marriage. Our worship of God is broken when we resist His design and His instructions for marriage. And that statement is true for both married people and single people alike. Pastor Josh noted last week that this truth does not mean that every Christian must be married in order to worship God. A single Christian is not a second class believer or member of Jesus’ church. But what it means is that every believer, whether married or single, is called to rejoice and respect God’s design and instructions for marriage. God’s Word on the subject impacts all of us in super significant ways. So let’s dig into God’s Word together. If you’re taking notes, we begin our discussion by considering

**God’s Supreme Glory in Creation**

We’ll take a step back. Look at Genesis 1 with me.

**Genesis 1:1** In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.

We want to begin there because that’s where everything begins. A discussion of marriage has to begin with a discussion of God Himself. We may be able to enjoy many aspects of marriage without a knowledge of God. Many people do. That’s common grace. But we won’t understand the meaning of marriage without a proper knowledge of God. It will be lost to us, its entire meaning. Genesis 1:1 is as much a marriage text as any text in Scripture. Genesis 1:1 is God’s loving revelation of Himself to us. God, in love, reveals Himself to us so that we would know Him, so that we would enjoy Him, so that we would worship Him as God.

You know, it’s amazing! We would know nothing of God if God didn’t reveal Himself to us. We have no means within ourselves to contrive in our imagination some image of God that’s correct or right or true. The only way we can know anything of God is that God reveals Himself to us through His created world, through His power and His glory, and more specifically, through His Word. He didn’t have to reveal Himself to us, but He did because He loves us. He wants us to know Him. He wants us to enjoy Him. He wants us to worship Him as God. In this first beautiful, brief line of God’s revelation, we discover that God is eternal. He is sovereign. He is good. He is all-powerful.

**Genesis 1:1** In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.

Let’s think about God together for a moment. Before creation, God dwelt all by Himself with nothing, absolutely nothing, and no one existing outside of Himself.There was no creation by which God revealed His glory. There was nothing but Himself that captured His focus, that captured His attention. There was no one else to love. There was no one else to receive love from.

We ask the question:How long was God alone without anything or anyone else before He created this world? How long was God in that state? I tell you, not a day, not a week, not a month, not a year, not a decade, not a century, not a millennia, not millions and millions or billions and billions of years, but from everlasting. For all of eternity, that is God. In all eternity past God existed without anything but Himself. And here’s the question. Was God happy? The answer is, Yes! He was infinitely happy before He created anything. It’s important for us to understand that. He was completely and utterly satisfied in Himself by Himself. Now, I wouldn’t be happy in that condition. If I had no one else and if I had nothing else, I would be miserable.

God created us as creatures who have needs. And one of those needs is the need for community outside of ourselves in order to find joy and fulfillment. But God is triune. In other words, He has perfect, absolute, satisfying communion inside of Himself; Father, Son and Holy Spirit. And He experiences complete joy and satisfaction all inside Himself. As the Triune God, He always was, He is, and He forever will be complete in Himself. He needs nothing to be added in order to have that completion. Now again, that’s not true of us. We need a lot in order to be complete. But not God! God is not lonely, and so God did not create this world in order to complete Himself, in order to satisfy some need He had in Himself, some need outside of Himself. God is self-sufficient. He is independent.

So if God were completely happy without us for all of eternity past, why did He create us? The answer that God gives to us is so that we might experience Him and His glory and find joy in Him and then glorify Him. God created us and He created this world as an expression of His glory. He created us in His image to know Him personally, to enjoy Him in relationship, and to communicate Him and His glory and His goodness to others. Here are just a couple verses where God says that very thing about Himself.

**Isaiah 43:7** everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made.”

He’s talking of His own people. He says, “You want to know why I created you? I created you for My glory, to experience My greatness and goodness and then to worship Me, to communicate Me to others.” Then in Revelation 4:11, this great worship scene in heaven

**Revelation 4:11 KJV** Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created.

I quote from the King James. I like the way that reads. Everything in this world which God created is created for the chief purpose of His pleasure, of making Him and His glory known, of worship. God said in Genesis 1:26

**Genesis 1:26** Then God said, “Let us make man in our image, after our likeness.

The whole purpose was so that we might be beings who could connect to Him personally and then reflect Him like a mirror; reflect some of that original beauty, some of that original glory and wonder, through our own persons, through our own lives. Now, we often receive images of ourselves to do the same, and then we’re very disappointed.

If you take out your driver’s license, for instance, there’s an image. You didn’t take that for your own glory, but wedding pictures and other pictures you take because you want to represent the glory in reflecting that for future ages, future generations. But most often, those pictures even disappoint us, and oftentimes, unjustly so. They are an accurate reflection of who we are, yet we’re still somewhat disappointed because we think it should express much, much greater glory. God created us in His image to reflect Himself in a way that pleased Him.

How does all this relate to marriage? The answer is that marriage is God’s magnificent means for us to create a clearer picture of God’s redemptive love. It’s to create a clearer picture of God’s glory than we would have if God didn’t create marriage.God did not create marriage and then afterwards think, “Actually, that would make a great illustration of My Son’s relationship to the church and the church’s relationship to the Son. I think I’ll use that. I think I’ll put it in the Book.” That’s not what happened. God created marriage for the purpose of being an illustration. Do you catch the difference? He didn’t say, “Oh, that looks like a great illustration,” after the fact. No, marriage is created for the purpose of being that illustration, of being that megaphone, of being that reflection, that mirror that would communicate to generations and generations of mankind throughout human history, something of God that we would miss seeing as clearly without this perfect picture, without this perfect painting that God designed.

I say that because I want us to understand that marriage is much, much bigger than any one of us. And when we begin to think of marriage as being only as big as us, it become very selfishly-oriented. We begin to think, “If this is not working out for me and my own glory, then I’m going to change things up.” And we begin to be resentful and we begin to resist and reject God’s design and His instructions. But marriage is something much, much bigger than any one of us. God did not create marriage mainly for the joy of sex, or for procreation, or for companionship, or for personal fulfillment. Those are all intended benefits of marriage. It’s all part of His goodness. But God created marriage so that we would find great pleasure in proclaiming the glory of God through it, proclaiming the redemption of Christ through it, so that just being in a state that consistently follows the design of God would allow us to communicate something to the people around us that is special, that is unique, that is God-ordained. That’s part of worship.

So the application I would encourage you to make is to think often about God with high and noble thoughts of Him.Many who name the name of Jesus fill their days and weeks with thoughts of everything else. We think of all the stuff at our job and all the relationships in there. We think of our family. We think of sports and how good our sports team is. We think of our hobbies. We think of politics and what is happening on the news and the financial markets and social media. We think about our tv shows and movies. We think about our music. We think about our pets. And what I want to encourage you to do first for all of life, but in this series also and for the sake of your marriage, think often and deeply of God. You say, “I really want to pursue a great marriage.” It begins there, right there! If we don’t think often, if our mind is not consumed…If it’s just this 25 minutes, or 35 or 45 or 50 minutes, however long I have… (Laughter!) If it’s only that much time throughout our week that we’re thinking about God, it’s impossible to have the kind of marriage that God describes. Impossible! It is God-saturated people who get what marriage is about, that it’s bigger than me, and thus it changes my attitude toward that relationship.

**God’s Sacred Design for Marriage**

***18*** *Then the LORD God said, “It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper fit for him.”*

I love those words!

***19*** *Now out of the ground the LORD God formed every beast of the field and every bird of the heavens and brought them to the man to see what he would call them. And whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name.* ***20*** *The man gave names to all livestock and to the birds of the heavens and to every beast of the field. But for Adam there was not found a helper fit for him.*

Twice, he uses that little phrase “fit for him.”

***21*** *So the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and while he slept took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh.*

Notice the crisis that God observes in His creation at this point. He made a male, Adam, from the dust of the ground. He breathed into Adam the breath of life and Adam became a living soul. So God made Adam in His image to have relationship with Him. Adam had a spirit now, a spirit that would live forever and ever. Again, that design was to live forever and ever with God in worship and to reflect God’s Person to the rest of creation. Of all the other aspects, there is this repeated refrain that comes over and over that says, “and God saw that it was good.” When you read Genesis 1, you see that refrain over and over. But here, He stops and says “It is not good.”

Why is it not good for man to be alone? Again, there are at least three reasons I consider. First, God is triune. He is three in One. Man is created to reflect God’s image, His glory. Man as male cannot reflect God’s Triune glory if there is no female covenant partner in which two persons become one. Again, it’s a picture. It’s not the essence of who God is, but it’s a picture. And that picture would not be complete if man as male were by himself, or alone. Secondly, God intended for man to be fruitful, multiply, fill the earth and exercise dominion over creation. Adam without Eve could not do that. Third, it’s not good because God designed man’s physical body, his emotional heart and his physical soul to connect in relationship to another like him; to one that is suitable for him or fit for him. So without woman, this design that He had when He made Adam’s body and heart and soul, didn’t have any corresponding way to connect with the very thing it was designed to connect with. Again, body and heart and soul were like that.

And so this would be very similar to the creation of a cord without an outlet. Why do you create a cord, unless there’s any outlet? It’s similar to a book cover without pages. Why would you even do that? It’s similar to creating a car without wheels, without an engine. Why would you create that? It’s not good. At that point, everything else may be perfectly designed, but it’s not good because it was created for something else to connect to it. It’s like creating a violin without strings. It just loses all of its purpose unless there is something else created that corresponds to it. And that’s what God is saying. I look at Adam, and it’s not good. I created this person clearly, obviously…you can see on the outside even the physical dynamics of this person that is fit for something. That’s true of his heart and that’s true of his soul as well.

So God institutes marriage by creating a single helper who is also made in His image. This Helper, in other words, woman or Eve, is “fit for him.” She is not exactly like man, but she is also not unlike man. She is more like him in very significant ways than any other creature. Yet she is different from him. And these differences are complementary, not conflicting. That’s really important! These differences are all important. They make all the difference. The very design of her body and her heart and soul is tangible proof of this complementary purpose. So here’s the application. Let’s rejoice in the differences between male and female. And that’s true whether we’re married or single. Let’s rejoice in these differences. Let’s not erase them. Let’s not resent them. Let’s not reject them. That’s the world’s strategy to deal with the differences. But let’s rejoice in these differences as we recognize them and honor them.

Notice God’s unique manner of creating the woman. He causes man to fall into a deep sleep and He takes a rib from him and He fashions this helper. And as we note that, it’s important again, I think, to see that once again man doesnot create, humankind does not create marriage. Humankind does not define marriage. God is the Actor here. That’s the important part of the story. God is doing the acting. He does this prior to the fall. It’s part of His perfect plan of creation, a creation that was made in order to glorify Him. And He literally creates this relationship through the first operation. He causes Adam to fall asleep and then He makes this operation. It’s a mystery exactly what He does, but He’s God. And we note that God doesn’t cede over this definition or this sovereign rule or principles of marriage over to man. He doesn’t say, “I’m giving you this gift. Do with it whatever you want.” He said, “This is My gift. This is Me continuing to act.” In fact, Jesus is going to make a statement later of God Himself joining together every marriage. God is always active in marriage. He is always the actor.

Here’s the truth. Marriage always works perfectly when we follow God’s manual. In other words, there are no design flaws. Recently in the papers, we’ve heard about the Max 737. There are some design flaws that created some trouble for some pilots and caused two plane crashes. It was a bad design. And here in marriage, when there’s a crash in marriage, it’s never a design flaw. It’s always an operator’s error. And yet the operator has an error, and the operator says, “I don’t want to blame myself. I want to blame the design. So here’s what I’m going to do. I’m going to change the design because that will work for me. Or I’m going to reject the design altogether and start over with something new.” And God says, “No, marriage is My creation. It will always work.” Our only protests are because we don’t want to recognize the brokenness of our own hearts which are unwilling to follow God’s instructions. In our pride and our selfishness, we’re unwilling to follow God’s instructions. The problem of marriage is always with our misuse of this amazing gift and never with God’s design.

Today, much cynicism about marriage flourishes inside the church. I know it flourishes outside. That’s not my concern. My concern is the cynicism about marriage flourishing within the church. And this cynicism resents marriage as God defines it and as God governs it. I want to tell you to go back to the first point I made. This is anti-worship. That’s why it’s so important. It’s not because it messes up relationships so much. It does that. It messes up children. It messes up husbandsand wives and their relationship. But the biggest tragic effect is that it messes up the worship of the church. We’re unable to give God glory. Cynicism about marriage is contempt toward God. We are right to grow lofty views of marriage because those lofty views are found in Scripture and are revealed to us. Any negative ideas the Christian has about marriage itself should be repented of as unworthy of God.

So Adam awakens. God brings the woman to Adam, the man,

***23*** *Then the man said, “This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man.”*

Adam is not complaining! Adam is not disappointed at all in God’s design for marriage. What Adam is saying is, “Wow! This is awesome! This is wonderful! This is amazing!” God involves three parties in marriage. He involves a man who is made in God’s image. He involves a woman who is also created in God’s image. And He involves Himself, who joins these two together as one.

***24*** *Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother*

We know that this is God’s, sort of, overall instruction about marriage, universally. It’s not just about this marriage because Adam and Eve do not have a father and mother. Adam doesn’t have a father and a mother to leave. And yet, from the very beginning He says

***24*** *Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother*

He’s saying, “This is not just for you, Adam. This is for everyone throughout the rest of time, throughout all of human history from this point forward. This is what marriage is going to be.”

***24*** *Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh.* ***25*** *And the man and his wife were both naked and were not ashamed.*

God joins these two together in a sweet, mystical union in which two separate people become one. And this is stunning! Genesis just tells us that the two shall become one. It doesn’t tell how exactly. How do these two become one? Jesus comments on this verse and tells us what happens when the two become one. Listen to what Jesus says in Matthew 19. He also says it in Mark’s gospel as well.

**Matthew 19:4** He answered, “Have you not read that he who created them from the beginning made them male and female,

Jesus exalts maleness and He exalts femaleness. And by the way, Jesus does comment on the definition of marriage between a man and woman. Right here as He is quoting Genesis 2, He says that God made them male and female.

**Matthew 19:5-6** and said, ‘Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh’? So they are no longer two but one flesh. What therefore God has joined together, let not man separate.”

This is powerful! Dr. Dunn, at the end of every wedding would say, “Let not man tear asunder.” That’s King James. I love that! “What God has joined together, let not man tear asunder.” And that’s exactly right.

So what happened when the two became one in Genesis? Jesus says, “Here’s what happened. God joined them together.” God did something that was invisible, but was real, at that moment. God joined them together and the two became one. That’s what happened. And because God joined them together, don’t tear it apart. It’s not yours to tear apart. It’s not your marriage. It’s God’s marriage. God did this. God created this oneness. He created this union. God gives us the right to enjoy His work, but not to destroy His work.

Let’s imagine a little boy builds a sand castle on the beach, and it’s beautiful. His little brother comes along and says, “Well, that’s great, Johnny.” Johnny turns his head for a moment and the little brother is a bit jealous. He comes up and he kicks the sand castle. None of you guys would do that, would you? Kicking your brother’s sand castle? So little Timmy, we’ll say, kicks Johnny’s sand castle. And is Johnny right to be upset? Yes. He worked hard on this castle. It was his creation. And he tells his little brother, “You can enjoy it, but I didn’t give you the right to destroy it. This was my creation. How dare you? It’s not right to do that!”

Now if that’s the rights of a little boy with sand on a beach that he doesn’t even own, how much greater, understand, the Creator of the world, when He says, “I’m doing something from the very beginning in human relationships that reflects My glory. And one of the things that I’m doing is this invisible, yet supernatural and mysterious work of taking two people and making them one. What I join together let no one tear apart. Let no one separate.” Do you see why God is deeply offended when we act as though marriage is ours to do with what we desire? He says, “This is my work.” God designs marriage to last as long as the two shall live. Your marriage is God’s construction project and you have no right to take a wrecking ball to it. That’s what God is saying. It’s the clear teaching of His Word.

So what is marriage? Marriage is the life long, covenantal union that God creates between one man and one woman for the display of His glory in this world. Next week we’re going to talk about the special goal that God has of us now pursuing oneness, and what that means for us. We’re going to talk about the instructions that God has laid out for us. But I want to at least come to the end of Genesis 2 and just reflect on some hope before we finish our considerations of marriage for this morning. In Genesis 2:25 God gives what I believe is a description of what oneness looks like. It’s a functional definition. In other words, this is what is experienced when oneness occurs. We’re going to talk and flesh this out more next week, but itsays

***25*** *And the man and his wife were both naked and were not ashamed.*

There is a physical element to that, but it’s much more than physical. It’s also emotional. It’s also spiritual. This verse becomes the introduction to Genesis 3. And what happens in Genesis 3? Well, Adam and Eve disobey God by eating the fruit of the tree of knowledge of good and evil. God said, “The day you eat of it, you will die.” Death is separation. It’s a breaking of relationship with God, but it’s a breaking also of God’s design, of God’s goodness and created order within the heart of man and also rippling throughout all creation. And immediately, what Adam and Eve did was they began to pick off fig leaves and began to clothe themselves. Genesis 2:25 is destroyed! And that story tells us that in a broken world that is broken by sin and our own rebellion, our own selfishness, marriage now, this oneness that God offers and this naked-with-no-shame, this kind of union of just openness and free-flowing communication of two people in harmony with each other is impossible apart from the grace of God entering.

So the fig leaves was man’s attempt, and the fig leaves aren’t going to cover. They get dry and then they need to keep picking fig leaves and they don’t cover. And even with fig leaves, they’re hiding from God in Genesis 3. And at the end of Genesis 3, God kicks them out of the garden, but in doing so, He also kills an animal and clothes them. And it’s a symbol of something that’s yet to come. It’s a symbol first that tells them, “I still love you and I still have a plan to rescue you from the death that you now deserve. That’s my plan.” Rescue individually for worship, but also, and here’s the hope that I want to share with you. Rescue you so that your marriage can still reflect My glory. And this ultimate love of God is found in Jesus Christ. Perhaps the most famous verse in all the Bible is John 3:16.

**John 3:16** “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.

**Romans 5:8** but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

**1 John 4:10** In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation (atoning sacrifice) for our sins.

Jesus is a covering for our sin. He is a healing for our brokenness.

**John 15:9-11** As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commandments and abide in his love. These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full.

Some perhaps are listening to this message and you’re thinking, “My marriage is hopeless. It will never experience oneness.” First, I have to say that God’s grace is sufficient for you, period. I know that God doesn’t promise a restored marriage to every person because that requires two people to be humble and receive grace from the Lord. And I don’t know your spouse. But if your heart is humble, understand that you will receive the grace of God and His grace will be completely sufficient for you to reflect His image and to worship Him and enjoy Him. That’s what I know. Second, God’s blessing is not dependent upon having a great marriage. God’s blessing is dependent upon us being a worshiping people. In other words, as he has placed me in marriage, I’m going to be a godly spouse. I’m going to reflect His image from my side.

And third, again, I will say this. When two people humble themselves before Jesus and seek Him by faith for life in their soul and for life in their marriage, they will experience it. And I say that not because I believe in myself or I believe in y’all or I believe in counseling. I say that because I believe in Jesus. Jesus is not a dry well. Jesus is not a broken cistern. When you come to Him as a humble sinner, you will drink and your thirst will be quenched. And when two people come to Him, they will drink together. Their thirst will be quenched and they will have life in God. Does that mean it’s easy to overcome sin, easy to overcome self, easy to overcome pride? No, no, no! But it’s accessible to everyone because you don’t have to be talented to do it. You don’t have to be skilled. You don’t have to be smart. You don’t have to be filled with wisdom. All you have to do is say, “I know I have a need and I’m done trying to provide for myself. I am broken before the Lord. I am empty and I come to God with empty hands. And here’s what I know. I know that Jesus is a great Savior and I’m coming to Him.” That’s where there is hope.