

Reading: Ephesians 5:31-32

First Things First:

- Don't "check out"
- Embrace the purpose of a sermon
- Don't try to get out from under the Word for comfort - get under the gospel for comfort
- Prepare yourself to answer your children's questions

Summarizing Ephesians to Understand A Key Point About Marriage

- **Chapters 1-3:** For our joy in His glory, God has chosen us to receive His eternal blessings
- Cite Ephesians 2:1-10
- **Chapters 4-6:** The application of all the truths in chapters 1-3
- Cite Ephesians 5:15-17

The will of the Lord is that His people:

1. Celebrate and Honor Marriage as a Covenant

- **Cite:** Ephesians 5:31: "Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh."
- Cite: Mark 10:8-9

Implications:

- The covenant is over our feelings not feelings over the covenant.
- When you get married, your spouse becomes the most important person in your life.

The will of the Lord is that His people:

2. Celebrate and Honor Marriage as a "One-flesh" Union

- **Cite:** Genesis 2:23

Implications:

- Any sexual activity outside the bonds of covenant marriage between one man and woman are actually a form of lying.
- God's designs are for our good.

The will of the Lord is that His people:

3. Celebrate and Honor Marriage as a display of the Gospel

- Cite Ephesians 5:32

Implication:

- Your marriage is for more than your marriage - it is for God's glory

Application:

- To the unmarried: seek marriage for God's glory

- To those who will remain unmarried: there are higher pleasures in Christ than there are in marriage.
- To the married: make your marriage about Christ.