



## Sermon Discussion Guide for All Saints Small Groups

### “Cleaved Together”

Rev. Tim Frickenschmidt

Sermon Date: November 12, 2017

#### INTRO Question(s):

What is the point, purpose and ultimate goal of a loving marriage?

#### Background:

Tim begins his sermon with a question posed in an article from the NY Times: Is an open marriage a happy marriage? Marriage today is so many things to so many people. The secularist view of marriage says we need more passion and “in-loveness” but Genesis and Ephesians lays out what a loving, Godly marriage looks like. Tim uses passages in these chapters to lay out 4 main attributes of a Godly marriage. That marriage is Basic, Different, Controversial and Ultimate.

Read the sermon Scripture text aloud (see below).

#### Discuss:

- 1. What does it mean to leave your parents and other relationships and cleave to your spouse?** Tim delves into and defines cleave (a joining that also cuts deep) and discusses synonyms like the Hebrew word covenant (relational bond that is all encompassing) and how Abraham split animals in two and walked between them signifying that if I break my covenant, what I have done to the animals shall happen to me.
- 2. What is the difference between being in love and love?** Many argue the former has passion and the latter does not. Remember the story that Tim tells of the husband who helps his wife take communion vs. a one-night stand. Which requires more passion? Tim really ends this point by discussing marriage vows. They are not declarations of being in love. They are declarations of a future love.
- 3. Is it possible to submit to your husband without discord? What is the other side of this coin as Scripture doesn't just end with submission?** Remember that Tim spends a lot of time discussing the responsibility of headship. Who does God come looking for in the garden first once the forbidden fruit has been eaten? Judgment is stricter for the headship.
- 4. Discuss what marriage and your spouse are NOT suppose to be.** Remember that we are created for a divine spouse, an eternal marriage.

#### Conclusion/Application:

Marriage is meant to be a taste of God's love. We are not created to have any human being complete us as the movie Jerry McGuire absurdly proclaims. Until you see that, you will struggle. Say it with me, “My spouse is not my savior. And never can be.”

By: Joel Pardue

Genesis 2:18, 21-25

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."

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.

Ephesians 5: 18, 21-33

18 And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit,...

21... submitting to one another out of reverence for Christ.

22 Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord.

23 For the husband is the head of the wife even as Christ is the head of the church, his body, and is himself its Savior.

24 Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit in everything to their husbands.

25 Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her,

26 that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word,

27 so that he might present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish.

28 In the same way husbands should love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself.

29 For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ does the church,

30 because we are members of his body.

31 "Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh."

32 This mystery is profound, and I am saying that it refers to Christ and the church.

33 However, let each one of you love his wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects her husband.