



The State of the Union

GENESIS 2:24; MATTHEW 19:3-9

Does marriage matter?

1. It matters to the health and _____ of any society.
2. It matters to God's plan to _____ His people. (*Lev 26:18-20; Deut 24:1-4*)

This divine institution was created to meet man's deepest physical and emotional needs while displaying a clear theological tutorial on the character of God.

What is marriage?

1. It's God's _____ - and His ideal. (*Gen 2:24*)
 "for this reason" -
 "leave" -
 "cleave" -
 "one flesh" -
2. It's a _____ , not a ceremony. (*Mal 2:13-16; Prov 2:16-17*)

4 CHARACTERISTICS OF A COVENANT:

- **Initiated by a vow**
- **Outlined in conditions**
- **Ratified by sacrifice**
- **Sealed with a symbol as a reminder**

When you make a vow to God, do not delay in fulfilling it. He has no pleasure in fools; fulfill your vow. It is better not to vow than to make a vow and not fulfill it. Ecclesiastes 5:4-5

How did we get here?

1. The introduction of the _____ nature in man (*Gen 3:6-24*)
2. The "hardness of _____" factor (*Matt 19:3-9*)

bruised heart → cool heart → apathetic heart → hard heart

mar • riage [mar-ij] *n.* an irrevocable commitment of unconditional love between an imperfect man and woman

What should we do now?

1. Remove the word " _____ " from your vocabulary. (*Mal 2:14-16*)
2. Remember that _____ is a serious breach of the covenant. (*Matt 19:9*)
3. Remind yourself that sex _____ marriage is a violation of God's plan. (*1 Thess 4:3*)
4. Resist the popular belief that _____ unions are appropriate. (*1 Cor 6:9-10*)

The best thing you can do for your marriage is to be a passionate Christ follower - He alone can give you the power to do what you cannot do on your own.



General

LIFE STAGE 2 YOUNG COUPLES' CLASS

"Breaking the Surface: Going Deeper with the Disciplines" meets TODAY at 10:45 a.m. in Fellowship Hall West. Contact Josh at jaburgess2000@msn.com.

EXCEL 6:30 p.m. TODAY in Fellowship Hall West. We're 30-something singles meeting for fellowship and Bible study.

THE GATHERING 6:30 p.m. TODAY in the Chapel. In your 20s? Come and dig deeper into the sermon with us.

THE CHURCH OFFICE will be closed on Monday, Sept. 3 in observance of Labor Day.

EXALT: A MID-WEEK REFUEL is a special evening of modern worship this Wednesday, Sept. 5 at 7:30 p.m. (new time) in The Den.

S.H.A.P.E. LITE Sunday, Sept. 9 from 12:30 to 2 p.m. This class will help you identify your spiritual gifts and understand how God has wired you for service. To register contact Brandon at BrandonS@christchapelbc.org.

FAMILY ROUND-UP Sunday, Sept. 9 at 10:45 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. in the Oak Room. Laugh, sing, eat and worship God together as a family. This family worship experience also encourages connection and will help you to guide your children spiritually. Food is provided following both Round-Ups.

LIFE ACADEMY CLASSES BEGINNING NEXT SUNDAY, SEPT. 9 At 9:15 a.m.:

Ephesians and the Lone Ranger Myth taught by Ken Miller in Link Classroom North focuses on the role of the body of Christ in our spiritual formation; **Beginnings: A Study In Genesis** taught by Stuart Lane in Link Classroom South is a foundational look at the foundational book of the Old Testament. At 11 a.m.: **Looking For Christ in the Old Testament** taught by Nathan Rader in Link Classroom North surveys the entire Old Testament in light of Jesus; **What You Don't Know Can Hurt You** taught by Kyle Scarborough in Link Classroom South overviews basic doctrines of our faith.

LIFE ACADEMY CLASS BEGINNING SUNDAY, SEPT. 16 The Old Testament taught by Dr. Bill Egner at 6:30 p.m. in Link Classroom South moves chronologically through the epic story of God, Israel and her Messiah as told through the Old Testament. Note that this class will run 20+ weeks.

PART-TIME CHILD CARE POSITIONS AVAILABLE for women to work with nursery and preschool children in our Wee Care program Thursdays, 8:30 a.m. to 1:45 p.m. Contact Lynn at LynnT@christchapelbc.org.

BE PART OF WHAT GOD IS DOING in Children's Ministry! We need 15 volunteers for September and have openings for subs to

share the wonder of our great God. Contact Donna at DonnaF@christchapelbc.org or stop by our table in the Great Room.

SPECIAL BUDDIES are needed to work closely with special needs children during worship hours. Contact Janie at JanieS@christchapelbc.org if you can help.



Women

WOMEN IN THE WORD BIBLE STUDY

"Wise Up! Successful Living from the Book of Proverbs" on Thursdays, Sept. 6 through Nov. 15 at 9:45 a.m. in the Sanctuary or 7 p.m. in the Oak Room. To register, go to www.cbcfamily.org/womenintheword or stop by the Women's Kiosk. RSVP for Children's Ministry to age 11 with Lynn at LynnT@christchapelbc.org.

"PASS IT ON" WOMEN'S MENTORING WORKSHOP Saturday, Sept. 15, 10 a.m. to noon at The Perk. Could you pass on your faith to a younger woman who's waiting to meet you? Gain tools with a spiritual purpose that impact her walk with God. Breakfast is included. Register at www.cbcfamily.org/events or the Women's Kiosk.

Students

OUR COLLEGE SERVICE IS BACK at 10 a.m. Sundays at The Aardvark (next to Fuzzy's, across Berry Street from TCU). Worship our Savior and dive into the book of Romans. Contact Ben at BenF@christchapelbc.org.

Soul Care

DIVORCE CARE begins Monday, Sept. 10 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. This 13-week series of biblical teaching is hosted by those who understand what you're experiencing. Children's Ministry to age 11 is available with Lynn at LynnT@christchapelbc.org. To register for the class contact Adelaide at AdelaideR@christchapelbc.org. Cost: \$15.

REDEEMED HEART RECOVERY Mondays at 7 p.m. in the Winsor Building; Tuesdays at 7 p.m. and Saturdays at 8:30 a.m. in the Soul Care Conference Room. Recovery from addiction or obsession in a Christ-centered, supportive environment.

Local Outreach

BECOME A SITE LEADER for one of our weekend Serve projects coming up in October. Contact Micah at MicahB@christchapelbc.org for more information.

WE NEED HELP TUTORING KIDS on Wednesday nights for Como Math and Reading Night. Volunteer once a week or once a month for a fun night of teaching and games. Contact Kathy at Kathy@paukune.net.

"EMBRACE" REFUGEE MINISTRY Use your gifts by serving refugees right here in Fort Worth. The Welcome Team sets up apartments; the Training Team teaches English; the Life Team spends time just getting to know great folks from another country. Contact Danella at DanellaH@christchapelbc.org.

TEACHER FRIENDS We need people for our Teacher Friend ministry at Como Elementary as a classroom resource for teachers. Contact Shay at cotter1@sbcglobal.net.

Children

THE SPECIAL NEEDS MINISTRY hosts Breakaway, a free fun-filled evening for families with special needs children, on our campus this Friday, Sept. 7 from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. We accommodate those with special needs (infant to 21 years old) and their siblings (infant to age 12). Reservations required. Newcomers need to fill out an application. Contact Janie at JanieS@christchapelbc.org by this Wednesday, Sept. 5.

MUSIKGARTEN Our preschool music program for infants through age 4 is now enrolling. Tuition is \$70 per family, and a parent/guardian must attend with the child. Contact Sharie at SharieS@christchapelbc.org, or go to www.cbcfamily.org/musikgarten.

Men

MIGHTY MEN BIBLE STUDY According to the book of Proverbs, every one of us has a bit of the stooge, or the fool, inside. So how do we stifle the stooge and become the wise guys God has called us to be? In our new series "Wise Guys!" beginning Thursday, Sept. 6, we'll explore the book of Proverbs and discover the secret to wisdom. Choose from 6:30 to 7:45 a.m. in the Oak Room (free breakfast), or 7 to 8:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall (free dinner). Contact Ben at BenB@christchapelbc.org or 817-546-6178.

MIGHTY MEN SMALL GROUPS Real men. Real groups. Real life change. Find a group at www.cbcfamily.org/men under the "Small Groups" tab. Contact Ben at BenB@christchapelbc.org or 817-546-6178.