

**Today after church we will have a Facility Update
to explain what's happening and what it will
take to get into it.**



KINGDOM LIFE

OUTRAGEOUS HOPE
FOR ORDINARY LIFE

A WORSHIP SERIES THROUGH
JESUS' SERMON ON THE MOUNT



“You have heard that it was said...but I say to you”

Matthew 5:21 – 48

Higher Righteousness

*“You have heard that it was said...
but I say to you...”*

- Murder
- Adultery / Divorce
- Swearing
- Retaliation
- Love

Jesus is correcting their false interpretation of God’s Law, which:

- 1) Made The Law about behavior
- 2) Elevated our ability
- 3) Therefore reducing our need
- 4) Reduced God’s Holiness

Matthew 5:27-32

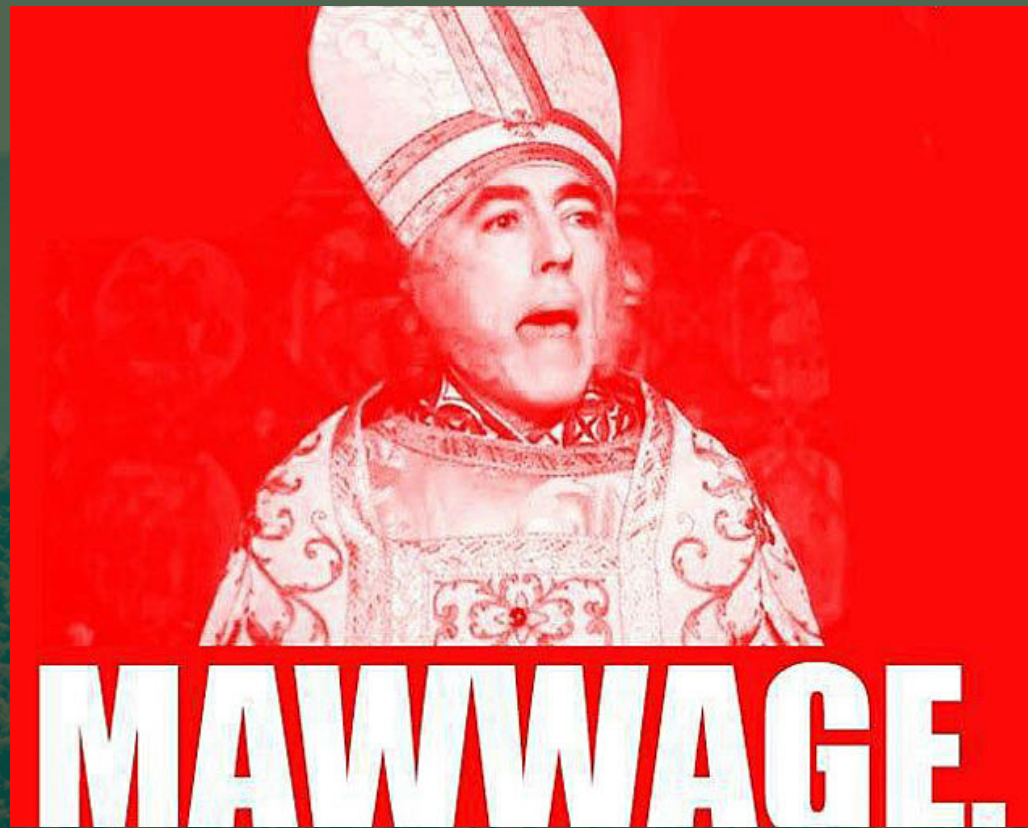
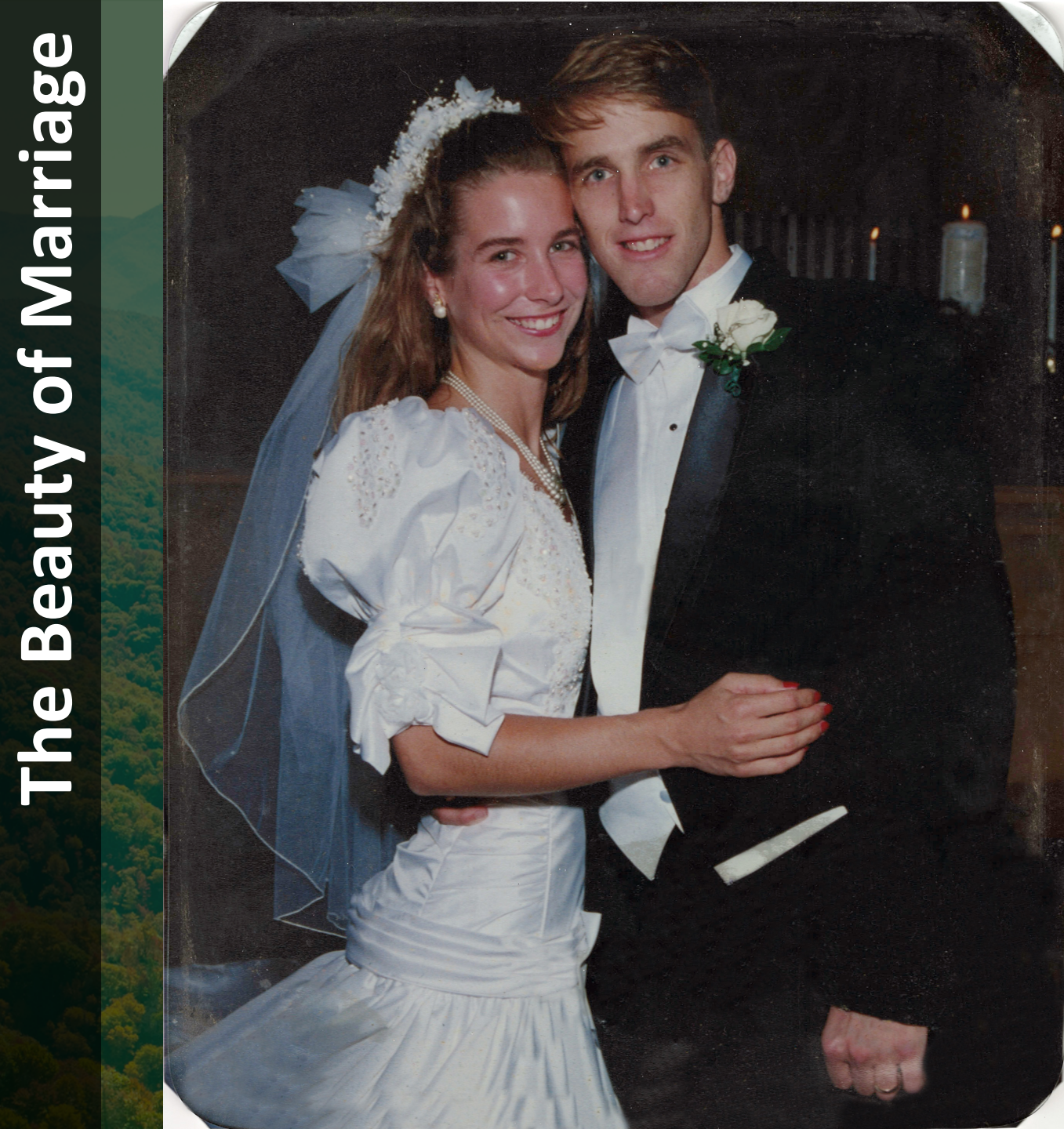
²⁷ “You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall not commit adultery.’
²⁸ But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lustful intent has already committed adultery with her in his heart. ²⁹ If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away. For it is better that you lose one of your members than that your whole body be thrown into hell. ³⁰ And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. For it is better that you lose one of your members than that your whole body go into hell.



Matthew 5:27-32

³¹ “It was also said, ‘Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce.’ ³² But I say to you that everyone who divorces his wife, except on the ground of sexual immorality, makes her commit adultery, and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery.





If a book begins with a marriage, and ends with a marriage,
it's a book about marriage.

(paraphrase from Tim Keller)

Genesis 2:24-25

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.

Revelation 19:6b-8

Hallelujah! For the Lord our God the Almighty reigns.

⁷ Let us rejoice and exult and give him the glory,
for the marriage of the Lamb has come,
and his Bride has made herself ready;

⁸ it was granted her to clothe herself
with fine linen, bright and pure”

Marriage is the greatest human illustration we have for our relationship with God (along with Father/Child)

“naked and were not ashamed”

Our deepest longing is to KNOW and to BE KNOWN

But NO, marriage is not the ultimate! Many are called to NOT be married so that their true intimacy will be reserved solely for Jesus



“and they shall become one flesh.”

Commitment
Leads to
Intimacy

We are designed to be
simultaneously knit together as one:
Emotionally, Physically, Spiritually

This is a gift, it's not who I am.

This is NOT the end-all that we have made it. My hope and wholeness ***cannot*** be summarized with my sexuality or intimacy.



Song of Songs 4

¹ Behold, you are beautiful, my love,
behold, you are beautiful!

⁹ You have captivated my heart, my sister, my bride;

¹² A garden locked is my sister, my bride,
a spring locked, a fountain sealed.

^{16b} Let my beloved come to his garden,
and eat its choicest fruits.



Matthew 5:27-28

“You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall not commit adultery.’²⁸
But I say to you that everyone who **looks at a woman with lustful intent** has already committed adultery with her in his heart.

Users
Cannibals
Your Life for Mine
You exist for my pleasure
Dehumanizing
Objectifying

Physically
Mentally
Fantasies
Virtual
Relational



The Brokenness of Intimacy

We have separated intimacy from marriage;
Worse yet, we've inverted them: Intimacy first, then (possibly) commitment

"It would seem that Our Lord finds our desires not too strong, but too weak. We are half-hearted creatures, fooling about with drink and sex and ambition when infinite joy is offered us, like an ignorant child who wants to go on making mud pies in a slum because he cannot imagine what is meant by the offer of a holiday at the sea. We are far too easily pleased."
C.S. Lewis, *The Weight of Glory*

"Trying to get sexual pleasure to fill our fundamental yearning for human happiness is a recipe for disappointment." Rebecca DeYoung

Like Murder, it dehumanizes another person made in God's image as we say "Your Life for Mine" instead of "My Life for Yours" – we are essentially "uncreating" them in our hearts.

Teens Ranked Video

Matthew 27

⁴⁵ Now from the sixth hour there was darkness over all the land until the ninth hour. ⁴⁶ And about the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, “Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?” that is, “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?”

Psalm 69:13b
At an acceptable time,
O God, in the
abundance of your
steadfast love
answer me in your
saving
faithfulness.

The LORD is The Faithful One

“Hesed” – Steadfast Love

“Yeshah” – Save, Deliver; Joshua ➡ Jesus

Truth; Unchanging; Trustworthy



Ephesians 5:29

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.

Believe the miracle that
your marriage is a reflection
of The Church

Sacrificial Love
not tied to your
feelings

Outdo one another
in love, respect
and service

But the healing of Marriage first begins with the healing of our hearts

Forgiveness and Renewal

Psalm 51

A Psalm of David, when Nathan the prophet went to him, after he had gone in to Bathsheba.

Have mercy on me, O God,
according to your steadfast love;
according to your abundant mercy
blot out my transgressions.

² Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity,
and cleanse me from my sin!

For the pain I've caused
For the pain caused to me



²⁹ If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away. For it is better that you lose one of your members than that your whole body be thrown into hell.

³⁰ And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. For it is better that you lose one of your members than that your whole body go into hell.

**The point is NOT to
behavior,
but behavior
absolutely reflect
belief and impacts
lives.**

Romans 12:1-2

I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. ² Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.



External Fighting

Togetherhness



Triggers



Internal Fighting

1 Thessalonians 4:3

For this is the will of God, your sanctification: that you abstain from sexual immorality; ⁴ that each one of you know how to control his own body in holiness and honor, ⁵ not in the passion of lust like the Gentiles who do not **know God**;

It is ultimately a belief issue.

- Believe I am satisfied in Him
- Believe that Lust leaves me emptier
- Believe how valuable others are
- Believe how valuable I am in Jesus



Revelation 22:17

The Spirit and the Bride say, "Come."
And let the one who hears say, "Come."
And let the one who is thirsty come;
let the one who desires take the water of life without price.



Adapted from a Puritan Prayer, about 300 years ago

Holy Lord,
I have sinned times without number,
and been guilty of pride and unbelief.
My transgressions and short-comings
present me with a list of accusations,
But I bless thee that they will not stand against me,
for all have been laid on Christ;
Go on to subdue my corruptions,
and grant me grace to live above them.
Let not the passions of the flesh nor lustings
of the mind bring my spirit into subjection,
but do thou rule over me in liberty and power.

Purge me from every false desire,
every base aspiration,
everything contrary to thy rule.

I thank thee for thy wisdom and thy love,
for all the acts of discipline to which I am subject,
for sometimes putting me into the furnace
to refine my gold and remove my dross.

No trial is so hard to bear as a sense of sin.
If thou shouldst give me choice to live
in pleasure and keep my sins,
or to have them burnt away with trial,
give me sanctified affliction.
Deliver me from every evil habit,
every accretion of former sins,
everything that dims the brightness
of thy grace in me,
everything that prevents me taking delight in thee.
Then I shall bless thee,
for helping me to be upright.