

– Ephesians 5.1-2, 22-23, 25, 31 –
Genesis Series 55

Application:

**The “Why” of God’s Design for Male & Female,
Sex, Marriage & Procreation**

Eph 5¹ [B]e imitators of God as dear children. ² And walk in love, as Christ also has loved us and given Himself for us ... ²² Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. ²³ For the husband is head of the wife, as also Christ is head of the church ... ²⁵ Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her ... ³¹ “For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.” [Gn 2.24] ³² This is a great mystery, but I speak concerning Christ and the church.

► The “why” of God’s design for male & female, marriage, sex & procreation lies deep within His glorious intention that we, as his sons & daughters, should know & imitate Him, growing in His likeness, as we _____ in His life, work, joy & glory. This is what it’s *all* about.

Jn 17³ “And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent.”

2Cor 3¹⁸ [W]e all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory ... by the Spirit of the Lord.

Jn 15¹¹ “These things I have spoken to you, that My joy may remain in you, and that your joy may be full.”

Eph 3¹⁷ that you, being rooted and grounded in love, ¹⁸ may be able to comprehend with all the saints ... the width and length and depth and height – ¹⁹ to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge; that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

► To fulfill these glorious purposes, one of the most important things we must learn is how to love as _____ loves.

Eph 3.17-19 above.

Eph 5.1-2, 22-32 above.

► God’s design for male & female, marriage, sex & procreation is all about the glory & blessing of learning to love like God loves. It is entirely _____ otherwise.

Acts 17²⁴ God, who made the world and everything in it, since He is Lord of heaven and earth, does not dwell in temples made with hands. ²⁵ Nor is He worshiped with men’s hands, as though He needed anything, since He gives to all life, breath, and all things.

Job 38⁴ “Where were you when I laid the foundations of the earth ... ⁷ ... and all the sons of God shouted for joy?”

Eph 5.1-2, 25 above.

► This explains so many of the “why’s”:

► 1. Why only the opposite sex in marriage? Because God’s spiritual Bride is fundamentally “_____” from Him.

– Recommend reading: *Why Gender Matters* by Leonard Sax.

– By God’s design, the mystery & wonder is what _____ us, both to God and the opposite sex.

Ps 139 1¹ O LORD, You have searched me and known me. ² You know my sitting down and my rising up; You understand my thought afar off. ³ You comprehend my path and my lying down, And are acquainted with all my ways. ⁴ For there is not a word on my tongue, But behold, O LORD, You know it altogether. ⁵ You have hedged me behind and before, And laid Your hand upon me. ⁶ Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; It is high, I cannot attain it.

Ps 73²⁵ [T]here is none upon earth that I desire besides You.

Song 4.1 – 8.7.

► 2. Why do we take an oath for life in marriage? Because God took an oath _____ for us.

Heb 6¹⁷ God, determining to show more abundantly to the heirs of promise the immutability of His counsel, confirmed it by an oath

Rom 8 39 [Nothing] shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

► 3. Why only one spouse in marriage? Because God has only one _____.

Eph 5.1-2, 22-32 above.

Rev 19⁷ Let us be glad and rejoice and give Him glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife has made herself ready.

► 4. Why does only the union of male & female produce new human life? Because only the union of _____ and humanity produces new spiritual life.

Rom 8⁹ Now if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he is not His. ¹⁰ And if Christ is in you, the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness ... ¹⁶ The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God

► 5. Why is the household of husband & wife the proper & most beneficial environment for the nurture of children? Because God's household, the _____, is the proper & most best environment for the nurture of God's spiritual children.

Eph 2¹⁹ Now ... you are ... fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God.

1Tim 3.15 I write so that you may know how one ought to conduct himself in the household of God, which is the church of the living God [NASV]

► 6. Why are men to be biblically masculine and women biblically feminine? Because God is the ultimate initiator, protector, provider, self-sacrificer, and leader, and thus is the living definition of _____, which He displays toward His Bride, the Church, and toward Creation as a whole. Male & female, masculine & feminine, within marriage enable us to imitate the _____ between Christ and His Bride, the Church. Male & female, masculine & feminine, as brothers & sisters in Christ forever enable us to serve, honor, & enjoy one another far more _____ than a host of androgynous beings.

Acts 17.24-25 & Eph 5.2, 25 above.

Col 1¹⁵ He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. ¹⁶ For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth ... All things were created through Him and for Him. ¹⁷ And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist. ¹⁸ And He is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in all things He may have the preeminence.

► Male & female, marriage, sex, & procreation are all God's _____ to us. They are bound up with the nature and ways of the Triune God, and with our identity as His sons & daughters. They are part of God's great "_____" to us. All of God's "No's" are to protect His _____. Therefore, any departure from God's design is not only wrong, but _____, for it spurns God's gifts. The enemy of human happiness & blessing is not God or His design, but fallen man and his _____ of God's gifts.

Deut 10¹³ [K]eep the commandments of the LORD ... which I command You today for your good.

Prov 8 36 "He who sins against me wrongs his own soul; All those who hate me love death."

Mat 4⁴ [Jesus] answered and said, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.'"