

**SERMON TITLE:** *Made For Family and the Church*

**SERMON SERIES:** Made For This

**SCRIPTURE:** Genesis 1:27-28, Genesis 2:7,18-25, Ephesians 1:23, Ephesians 4:13-16

**#1 We were made for family.**

- Genesis 1:26, Genesis 2:7, Genesis 2:18-25, Genesis 1:27-28
  1. Leave
    - Individuals must disconnect from depending on their parents as their primary source of physical, mental, emotional, spiritual, financial and vocational support.
  2. Cleave
    - God calls husband and wife to cling to one another and to oppose any force that seeks to drive a wedge into their relationship.
  3. Become one
    - you no longer act as two autonomous individuals but as a unified couple
  4. Serve
    - God's design for marriage is that mutual service would lead to mutual satisfaction.
  5. Multiply
    - God also designed marriages to reproduce spiritually.
  6. Rule
    - God's original intent was that the earth would be filled with kings and queens that serve the King of Kings to create culture that contributed to human flourishing.
- Sin has impacted each aspect of God's design for the family.

## #2 We were made for the Church.

- Ephesians 1:23, 4:13-16
  1. We need the church to experience the fullness of God's transforming power.
  2. We need the church to exercise our spiritual gifts.
  3. We need the church to benefit from the spiritual gifts of others.
  4. We need the church so that our view of God can be expanded.

### Discussion Questions:

1. How would you describe popular culture's take on marriage?
2. Even for healthy parent/child relationships the "leaving" process can be difficult on both the parents and the child. If you are married, did you find it hard to "leave" your parents? Did your parents find it hard to let you go? Do you know of any controlling parents that are constantly making their opinions known to their married son or daughter in an attempt to steer their child's marriage (no need to mention names)? If so, how has this negatively impacted the marriage? Do you know of any marriages that are too dependent on their parents for support (again, no need to mention names)? If so, how has this negatively impacted the marriage? If you have married adult children, was it hard to let them go? If you have young children, do you think you will struggle to let them cleave in marriage?
3. What problems most often drive wedges between a husband and a wife? If you are married, are there any themes regarding the arguments you have with your spouse?
4. Why is it important for married couples to become one flesh not just in theory but in practice?
5. How can/does mutual service lead to mutual satisfaction in marriage? Who is better at serving the other, you or your spouse? If you were to ask your spouse to tell you one thing you could do to serve them better, what do you think they would say?
6. Were your parents intentional about discipling you? If you have children, are you intentional about discipling your kids to become fully devoted followers of Jesus? If so, what steps are you taking? If not, what can you do to make this the focal point of your family? If you have adult children and you were intentional about discipling them, what worked and what didn't?

7. What do you make of the fact that you were made to be a king or queen ruling over the world on behalf of the King of Kings?
8. How have you experienced God's transforming power through the church?
9. Check out this list<sup>1</sup> of spiritual gifts. What spiritual gifts might you have?
10. How has your view of God expanded from being a part of a local church?
11. What is God saying to you? What will you do about it? Who will hold you accountable?

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<sup>1</sup><https://www.tyndale.com/sites/unfoldingfaithblog/2019/10/01/a-quick-list-of-biblical-spiritual-gifts-which-gifts-exist-and-what-they-mean/>