

NEXT STEP: STUDY & SHARE

READINGS

Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-18

Psalm 34:15-22

The eyes of the Lord are upon the righteous. (v15)

Ephesians 5:22-33

John 6:56-69

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Holy God, your word feeds your people with life that is eternal. Direct our choices & preserve us in your truth, that, renouncing what is false & evil, we may live in you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior & Lord. Amen.

SERMON TEXT- Ephesians 5:22-33

²²Wives, be subject to your husbands as you are to the Lord. ²³For the husband is the head of the wife just as Christ is the head of the church, the body of which he is the Savior. ²⁴Just as the church is subject to Christ, so also wives ought to be, in everything, to their husbands. ²⁵Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church & gave himself up for her, ²⁶in order to make her holy by cleansing her with the washing of water by the word, ²⁷so as to present the church to himself in splendor, without a spot or wrinkle or anything of the kind — yes, so that she may be holy & without blemish. ²⁸In the same way, husbands should love their wives as they do their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. ²⁹For no one ever hates his own body, but he nourishes & tenderly cares for it, just as Christ does for the church, ³⁰because we are members of his body. ³¹For this reason a man will leave his father & mother & be joined to his wife, & the two will become one flesh. ³²This is a great mystery, & I am applying it to Christ & the church. ³³Each of you, however, should love his wife as himself, & a wife should respect her husband.

LISTENING TO . . .

GOD- *Christian life is rooted in the Father, Son, & Holy Spirit*

1. What do the following add to Ephesians 5:22-33? See *Matthew 19:1-12; Romans 12:1-2; 1 Corinthians 7:1-17; Philippians 2:1-11; Colossians 3:18-4:1; Titus 2:1-8; 1 Peter 3:1-6*
Use your Bible's study notes.
Need a study Bible? How about [The Lutheran Study Bible](#) by Concordia Publishing? (*Large online retailers have pre-owned copies for less.*)
2. How do the following help explain the "mystery" language? See *Romans 16:25-27; 1 Corinthians 2:1-2; Ephesians 1:7-10, 3:7-12; Colossians 1:25-2:3*

EACH OTHER- *Sharing & growing with our brothers & sisters in Christ*

3. Love is a verb (action word), not a feeling (noun). In his book [Love & Respect](#), Dr. Emerson Eggerichs speaks of a balance between love & respect in a biblical marriage. Without putting too-fine of a point on it, reflect on your own marriage (or dating relationships). When have you withheld love or respect? When has it been withheld from you? How were the situations resolved? What did you learn about the balance going forward?
4. Review Holy Baptism in both the [Small & Large Catechisms](#). How does it influence our ability to love & respect one another (*cf. vv26-27*)? [SC, LC available \[bookofconcord.org\]\(#\)](#)

NEIGHBORS- *Bearing fruit for those not yet our brothers & sisters*

5. Focusing carefully on the actual words of the passages cited in #1, list at least 12 ways biblical marriage is different from the various approaches to marriage in our culture today. How are these differences talked about in your congregation? How do (or can) you talk about these differences?
6. St. Peter tells Jesus in *John 6:68*, "You have the words of eternal life." With *Romans 10:11-17* in mind, who in your everyday life (family, friends, coworkers, neighbors, etc.) needs these words of life? How is the Lord equipping & calling *you specifically* to share these life-giving words? See *Mark 13:11; 1 Peter 3:15*

14th Sunday after Pentecost

08.25.24

Series: CHRIST for EveryBODY

Rev. Jared Stillions, STS

We glorify God with our bodies as he instructs us

Loving the Body

Our human love is derived from Jesus's love for the church

-Notes-

KEY VERSE: For no one ever hates his own body, but he nourishes & tenderly cares for it, just as Christ does for the church, because we are members of his body. (vv29-30)

-NEXT STEPS MEMORY VERSE-

Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.

(John 6:68)

Prayer of the Day from SundaysandSeasons.com. Copyright 2024 Augsburg Fortress. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies license SB140201. Scripture is reprinted from New Revised Standard Version Bible with Apocrypha, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Devotion prepared by Rev. Jared Stillions. Copyright 2024; may be reproduced & shared for personal, non-sale use, provided this copyright notice is included. Previous studies available stpeterhallettsville.org/blog

NEXT STEP: STUDY & SHARE

READINGS

Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-18

Psalm 34:15-22

The eyes of the Lord are upon the righteous. (v15)

Ephesians 5:22-33

John 6:56-69

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Holy God, your word feeds your people with life that is eternal. Direct our choices & preserve us in your truth, that, renouncing what is false & evil, we may live in you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior & Lord. Amen.

SERMON TEXT- Ephesians 5:22-33

²²Wives, be subject to your husbands as you are to the Lord. ²³For the husband is the head of the wife just as Christ is the head of the church, the body of which he is the Savior. ²⁴Just as the church is subject to Christ, so also wives ought to be, in everything, to their husbands. ²⁵Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church & gave himself up for her, ²⁶in order to make her holy by cleansing her with the washing of water by the word, ²⁷so as to present the church to himself in splendor, without a spot or wrinkle or anything of the kind — yes, so that she may be holy & without blemish. ²⁸In the same way, husbands should love their wives as they do their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. ²⁹For no one ever hates his own body, but he nourishes & tenderly cares for it, just as Christ does for the church, ³⁰because we are members of his body. ³¹For this reason a man will leave his father & mother & be joined to his wife, & the two will become one flesh. ³²This is a great mystery, & I am applying it to Christ & the church. ³³Each of you, however, should love his wife as himself, & a wife should respect her husband.

LISTENING TO . . .

GOD- *Christian life is rooted in the Father, Son, & Holy Spirit*

1. What do the following add to Ephesians 5:22-33? See *Matthew 19:1-12; Romans 12:1-2; 1 Corinthians 7:1-17; Philippians 2:1-11; Colossians 3:18-4:1; Titus 2:1-8; 1 Peter 3:1-6*
Use your Bible's study notes.
Need a study Bible? How about [The Lutheran Study Bible](#) by Concordia Publishing? (*Large online retailers have pre-owned copies for less.*)
2. How do the following help explain the "mystery" language? See *Romans 16:25-27; 1 Corinthians 2:1-2; Ephesians 1:7-10, 3:7-12; Colossians 1:25-2:3*

EACH OTHER- *Sharing & growing with our brothers & sisters in Christ*

3. Love is a verb (action word), not a feeling (noun). In his book [Love & Respect](#), Dr. Emmerson Eggerichs speaks of a balance between love & respect in a biblical marriage. Without putting too-fine of a point on it, reflect on your own marriage (or dating relationships). When have you withheld love or respect? When has it been withheld from you? How were the situations resolved? What did you learn about the balance going forward?
4. Review Holy Baptism in both the [Small & Large Catechisms](#). How does it influence our ability to love & respect one another (*cf. vv26-27*)? [SC, LC available \[bookofconcord.org\]\(#\)](#)

NEIGHBORS- *Bearing fruit for those not yet our brothers & sisters*

5. Focusing carefully on the actual words of the passages cited in #1, list at least 12 ways biblical marriage is different from the various approaches to marriage in our culture today. How are these differences talked about in your congregation? How do (or can) you talk about these differences?
6. St. Peter tells Jesus in *John 6:68*, "You have the words of eternal life." With *Romans 10:11-17* in mind, who in your everyday life (family, friends, coworkers, neighbors, etc.) needs these words of life? How is the Lord equipping & calling *you specifically* to share these life-giving words? See *Mark 13:11; 1 Peter 3:15*

14th Sunday after Pentecost

08.25.24

Series: CHRIST for EveryBODY

Rev. Jared Stillions, STS

We glorify God with our bodies as he instructs us

Loving the Body

Our human love is derived from Jesus's love for the church

-Notes-

KEY VERSE: For no one ever hates his own body, but he nourishes & tenderly cares for it, just as Christ does for the church, because we are members of his body. (vv29-30)

-NEXT STEPS MEMORY VERSE-

Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.

(John 6:68)

Prayer of the Day from SundaysandSeasons.com. Copyright 2024 Augsburg Fortress. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies license SB140201. Scripture is reprinted from New Revised Standard Version Bible with Apocrypha, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Devotion prepared by Rev. Jared Stillions. Copyright 2024; may be reproduced & shared for personal, non-sale use, provided this copyright notice is included. Previous studies available stpeterhallettsville.org/blog