

10/6/24

Sermon – Marriages, Anniversaries, and God

Scripture – Psalm 40:1-5

Main Message – Days, years, and even decades can just run together, but a celebrating a marriage anniversary as the Holy Covenant that it is, reminds us of God's love toward us.

It is certainly easy... to easy to get into a rut and let time pass on by without reflecting on the wonderful gifts given to us by God. We can become too busy, too distracted, too self-absorbed with our own interests and then look up one day and say, "what happened to our life." To share a life with another who is bound to you by God's Holy Covenant of marriage is a gift beyond blessing. The memories you develop, the times spent together alone or with others, the foundation by which your family is made, and if it is God's blessing, the children you raise to become adults to carry on your memory after you have gone.

Read Psalm 40

Vs 2) This room is filled with those who have battled through good times and difficult times in order to have this blessing that we often take for granted. That the incompleteness that is in our heart is made more whole with another individual's trust and dedication as a life long spouse. Just like vs 1 of this psalm says, he brought me up out of miry clay and set my feet upon a rock and established the direction of my life. This is what Christ has done for us. He also knows many of us need an extra hand. This is the marriage covenant.

Vs 3. We should daily thank God for his blessings. We should wear our faith openly for all to see. This we should also do with our marriage. This bond is always under attack. These days, people's thoughts on marriage distill down only to duty and monetary improvements. These things do not make sing for joy, or praise openly the gift of marriage. It is hard work. It is sometimes very difficult, but for those who do not give in and keep the Lord a central part of their marriage, others will see the value and that there is no finer way to navigate this world than with a partner of whom you have shared so much. Then they also will have hope for a future.

Vs 4. Trust in the Lord. Should be easy, but we sin and forget that this trust is all important. Trusting in the Lord means that you also trust in who has brought into your life to share the blessings and the challenges. Trusting in each other means that you indeed do trust in the Lord.

Vs 5. When you stop to think about it, you couldn't even begin to recall all the good times, all the blessings, all the joy. I'm sure many of you have reminisced about the good times gone past and its good to do that. An anniversary is a good time to recall those things. I will say this though, do not forgo making more memories at every stage of your life even as we near the end. This keeps the spice of life alive and well. Don't put your marriage into the grave too early and miss the opportunity to continue living with the blessing of marriage.

Today, I deviated from the opportunity to do more parables because today Randy and Debbie celebrate 50 years of marriage. We celebrate with them today, but many here can celebrate along with them. Even if your spouse has passed on, or you are not yet married, or you may never be married, never forget that the LORD is with you each and every day and in every conceivable way. Do not neglect his most valuable relationship in the world. But let today be a day that we all feel the joy of God's blessings. Our future is developed by relationships. Maximize what you have.