

## I DO – Week 1

We are starting a 5 week series on Marriage, not just for those who are married now, but for everyone. Understanding where marriage came from, and why we have it, is import for every part of our lives. Before we engage in a conversation about the covenants, commitments, and standards, we need to start first the why. The *Beauty* God made all of us to experience in him.

### Sunday's Points:

1. God Made You To Experience His Beauty / 2. God Gave Us Marriage & Sex
3. We Messed It Up. / 4. Jesus Was The Plan All Along

### QUESTIONS:

1. Read this passage: **Psalm 19:1-6**  
*The heavens proclaim the glory of God. The skies display his craftsmanship. Day after day they continue to speak; night after night they make him known. They speak without a sound or word; their voice is never heard. Yet their message has gone throughout the earth, and their words to all the world. God has made a home in the heavens for the sun. It bursts forth like a radiant bridegroom after his wedding. It rejoices like a great athlete eager to run the race. The sun rises at one end of the heavens and follows its course to the other end.*
2. Have you ever had an experience in nature or with other people that made you feel overwhelmed by the beauty of what you saw or saw happen?
3. If you think about this beauty, what does it say about how God made you to experience his beauty in your life?
4. Does the pain you see in our culture, or in your own life, cause you to question God's beauty?
5. Do you agree that we've been part of bringing pain and sin into the world?

Read Philippians 2:5-10

*In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus: Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with **God something to be used to his own advantage; rather, he made himself nothing** by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death—even death on a cross!*

In our first understanding of marriage, God gave marriage as a picture of Christ and the church. It shows us real love. Power wasn't used for Jesus's own advantage, but given up to redeem us.

6. Have you ever though about marriage in this way? That it was given to us from God and as a picture of Christ and the church? That marriage should reflect this "other focused" sacrificial love?
7. Does this cause you to view marriage differently?