

WHOLEHEARTEDNESS IN OUR VOCATIONS



CALLED TO MARRIAGE

Vocation of Marriage:

God calling a man and woman into a faithful partnership for the purpose of to loving Him and loving others through that partnership

“Haven’t you read,” he replied, “that he who created them in the beginning made them male and female, and he also said, ‘For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two will become one flesh’? So they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore, what God has joined together, let no one separate.”

Matthew 19:4-6

God calls you to the vocation of marriage—it's not something that we create or even choose for ourselves. We discover and discern this calling, but ultimately, we receive it from God.

**The vocation of marriage calls a man
and woman to faithful partnership**

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- 3. The vocation of marriage is a call to serve God and love others.**

THE CURSE & MARRIAGE

Internal Pressures

External Pressures

Destructive to marriage is the self-fulfillment ethic that assumes marriage and the family are primarily institutions of personal fulfillment, necessary for us to become 'whole' and happy. The assumption is that there is someone just right for us to marry and that if we look closely enough we will find the right person. This moral assumption overlooks a crucial aspect to marriage. It fails to appreciate the fact that we always marry the wrong person. We never know whom we marry; we just think we do. Or even if we first marry the right person, just give it a while and he or she will change. For marriage, being [the enormous thing it is] means we are not the same person after we have entered it. The primary challenge of marriage is learning how to love and care for the stranger to whom you find yourself married.

Stanley Hauerwas

REDEEMING MARRIAGE

For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two will become one flesh. This mystery is profound, but I am talking about Christ and the church.

Ephesians 5:31-32

Jesus' Way of Sacrificial Love (Eph 5)

- **Jesus is the head of the church who takes responsibility for the salvation/healing of his bride**
- **Jesus loved the church and give himself for her**
- **Jesus makes the church holy**
- **Jesus cleanses the church from sin, guilt, shame**
- **Jesus provides and cares for the church**

HOPE FOR MARRIAGE

**As good and beautiful as
marriage is, it is not your
ultimate hope**

Apprentice yourself to Jesus'
Way of sacrificial love