



PLEASE USE the Grow in Grace Newsletter for your own spiritual growth; and **AS A RESOURCE** to help equip you to MINISTER to others! **Volume 47, No. 23, June 14, 2022** / Southside Baptist Church / P.O. Box 1594 / 1028 South Water Avenue, Gallatin, TN 37066 (615) 452-5951 / **The Grow in Grace Newsletter is a WEEKLY Bible Study**, plus local church news notes— designed first and foremost for members and those attending services at Southside Church; and is sent forth with the desire to aid one and all, (including friends far and wide), in the experience of 2 Peter 3:18. **"But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our LORD JESUS CHRIST!**

CHRISTIAN MARRIAGE and FAMILY! [Part 8]

FATHER'S DAY— A GOOD DAY TO MAJOR

ON BEING LIVING 'OBJECT LESSONS' FOR THE GOSPEL!

STOP! READ! APPLY! Ephesians 5:18-32:

¹⁸ **"And do not** be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; **but be** [Be being continuously] filled with the [HOLY] Spirit, ¹⁹ **speaking to one another** in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the LORD, ²⁰ **giving thanks always** for all things to God the Father in the name of our LORD JESUS CHRIST, ²¹ **submitting to one another in the fear of GOD!"**

[Marriage is to be a LIVING, VISUAL ON EARTH DEMONSTRATION OF CHRIST and the church, of Christ and the Christian!]

²² **"WIVES, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord."**

²³ **"For the husband is head of the wife, as also Christ is head of the church; and He is the Savior of the body. ²⁴ **Therefore, just as the church is subject to Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in everything."****

²⁵ **"HUSBANDS, love your wives, just as [IN THE SAME MANNER AS!] Christ also loved the church and gave**

Himself for her, ²⁶ **that He might** sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word, ²⁷ **that He might** present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish. ²⁸ So husbands ought to love their own wives as their own bodies; he who loves his wife loves himself. ²⁹ For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, ***just as the Lord does the church.***

30 For we are members of His body of His flesh and of His bones. ³¹ **“For this reason** a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.”

³² **This is a great mystery, but I speak concerning Christ and the church.”**

From this passage, LET EACH OF US ASK:

1. What is God’s message **to ME**, to conform me more to His will and His likeness? 2. What is God’s message **through ME**, to apply and obey on behalf of others for Christ’s sake?

Ephesians 5:32— Marriage is designed by God to be a beautiful OBJECT LESSON, A LIVING DEMONSTRATION TO THE WATCHING WORLD of the UNENDING love relationship between Jesus and His Church!

No wonder satan hates Christian marriages!

No wonder there are such awesome consequences for sex related sins!

that God, (Who has a permanent hatred for all sin), specifically states in the Word of God that HE HATES DIVORCE! (Mal. 2:16)

GOD ESPECIALLY HATES DIVORCE because it is **a direct assault on His covenant keeping character** and **DEFILES** the beautiful **object lesson** He has given to the world of the eternal love relationship between the believer and the LORD JESUS CHRIST. IT IS FOR THIS REASON that by the grace of God, at Southside we are among those who still hold the Scriptures that (along with other qualifications), pastors and deacons must not have a divorce in their background, (1 Timothy 3; Titus 1). Moreover, we are among those who plead with Christians to REFUSE to divorce, to CHOOSE to forgive and to love in the same manner as Christ loves us!

[BY THE WAY, even if one's theology allows for divorce in some circumstances— there is **NO NEW TESTAMENT COMMAND TO DIVORCE!**] There are abundant New Testament commands to be redemptive, to suffer for righteousness sake, to love, bless, forgive, pray for, and to do good even to enemies. ***PURE AND SIMPLE: Christ anointed Humility will save a massive multitude of marriages; as well as accomplish POSITIVE WONDERS FOR YOUR CHILDREN! Self-Justifying Pride will destroy a massive multitude of marriages... AND CHILDREN!***

Children raised in chaos become adults who live in chaos.

Give your child a childhood they don't have to heal from.

BUT I ALREADY HAVE DIVORCE in my background. Can I be effective and useful in real kingdom work? Through the years, (here at Southside), we have had and now have DEAR SAINTS IN CHRIST with divorce in their background who have

been/**ARE** greatly used of God in a variety of ways in the ministries of the church family; and in their everyday life and in their homes — **they display Christ!**

- ✓ If you have a divorce or even more than one divorce in your past and you want to spend the rest of your earthly life greatly useful in God’s kingdom, please understand this: The sin of divorce can be **READILY** forgiven, even as any other sin about which we **HUMBLE** ourselves and cry out, **“O God, I have sinned! I did not have your vision for marriage; THANK YOU for your forgiveness, on the merits of the blood of Jesus!”**

Even if you feel you were ‘the innocent party’— nevertheless in your heart of hearts, you know that you were not totally without fault in the failure of that previous marriage. **So, do you want a special blessing? GOD BLESSES HUMILITY!**

CONFESS like this: “I have sin and failure in my past. At this point, it matters not who was the most to blame. **The reality is that my former spouse and I— WE sinned.** By the grace of God, I have repented of my part in our past failures. I have **COME TO YOU... TO REST IN YOUR** forgiveness of my part in the failures. And I have forgiven all other parties, even as God has for Christ sake forgiven me!”

“MOREOVER, IN MY PRESENT MARRIAGE— my spouse and I are in an *UNTIL DEATH DO US PART* HOLY COVENANT. We are committed to **HONORING CHRIST IN OUR MARRIAGE!**”

THUS, here is a potential EXAMPLE OF your empowered witness: **“SO, Mr. Co-worker, Mrs. Neighbor— YOU ADMIRE OUR MARRIAGE?** Wonderful, but you must understand that our good marriage is **NOT** because it is a second marriage, but because in this present marriage, we are following Christ! **PLEASE**

DO NOT use our past failures to justify your present desires/plans for a divorce. Rather, we plead with you to go the way of the Cross in your present marriage. That alone is the key to miracles and happiness!”

“Yes, your flesh, the world and MANY pastors/churches tell you that it is fine to divorce. Nevertheless— DON’T DO IT. INSTEAD, BE REDEMPTIVE! ***Don’t you be the one that slams the door shut to forgiveness and miracles of love!***”

Again, earthly marriage is designed by God to be a beautiful OBJECT LESSON — A LIVING DEMONSTRATION TO THE WATCHING WORLD of the everlasting love relationship between Jesus and His Church!

Where would we be had God not Poured out His love to the undeserving, the unloving, and the unresponsive? DURING THE DAYS OF YOUR SPOUSE’S GREATEST SIN— he/she needs the redemptive love of Christ! PLEASE, be a channel for His love!”

MOST MARRIAGE SAVING MIRACLES are the result of either the husband or the wife being God’s love agent to the undeserving, the unloving, and the unresponsive! Christians are people who are empowered with DIVINE LIFE! You are a WALKING MIRACLE! You have been crucified, yet you live! You are now DEAD to living for sin, self, society, and satan. Sin, self, selfishness, society, and satan no longer have DOMINION OVER YOU— Rom 6; 1 / Cor. 6:19-20; / Gal 2:20; / Gal 6:14.

IN CHRIST, you now have new RESOURCES: DIVINE LOVE, the oil that eliminates FRICTION: Romans 5:5; 1 Cor. 13. You have NEW LIFE, NEW POWER and you have a NEW MIND: Phil. 2:5. Sin, Self, society, and satan are no longer boss. ***You are a***

COMMANDMENT PERSON, obeying Jesus... loving Him because He first loved you— thus, your FEELINGS are no longer boss!

Your life is no longer about what you think or about what you feel, BUT ABOUT WHAT GOD SAYS! BEING FORGIVEN— YOU FORGIVE. BEING LOVED— YOU LOVE. THUS, YOU ARE NO LONGER A victim!

THIS NEW LIFE IN CHRIST is enhanced and experienced more and more as we obey the command to be being continuously filled with the Holy Spirit! O CHRISTIAN, YOU ARE A WALKING MIRACLE. **You have in Christ all the necessary resources** to be a living demonstration to the watching world of the everlasting love relationship between Christ and His Church!

SOMEONE might be honestly thinking, “I know I’m saved, but I am a stranger to all you have been saying here. I HAVE TO BE HONEST: SIN, SELF, SATAN, and SOCIETY DOMINATE ME! I have no control over the works of the flesh; and I am a stranger to the fruit of the Holy Spirit. Sure, I can be nice to someone who agrees with me... But other than that, it’s war and I am angry, and mad, and resentful and bitter and full of lusts... but at least I’m saved and on my way to heaven!” REALITY: Based on your testimony and measuring it by the Word of God, it sounds like you are a slave to the wrong master: Romans 6:16! You sound like one with only a devil’s faith! COME TO JESUS NOW! Come in honest bankruptcy before God, cry out for mercy. All who come to Him, He will receive!

OTHERS as genuine saints in Christ might be thinking: “WOW! I’m called to be a LIVING DEMONSTRATION TO THE WATCHING WORLD of the eternal love relationship between Jesus and His Church! O what a glorious and high calling... what a

grand reason for being! What a grand motivation to cultivate love in our marriage! WE CONFESS that by the grace of God we are committed, LORD, to your grand purpose for our marriage and our family!”

OTHERS: Maybe you have had marriage failure... MAYBE NON-REPAIRABLE... for there has not only been a divorce, but a marriage to someone else. REALITY: MORE THAN ANYONE— you realize the need for a church that is a MARRIAGE SAVING congregation. THUS, from a position of BROKENNESS and HUMILITY you can have a ministry of pointing others to Jesus and His ways!

A DARK PAST NEED NOT BE a hindrance to present and future usefulness in God’s kingdom work! * The WOMAN AT THE WELL** was immediately busy with vital kingdom work! Jesus did not assign her to nothingness or to a ‘singles group’ so she could date and have ‘Christian fun and games’...!

***** The Demonic—** Jesus did not assign him to a D.A. GROUP, (Demoniacs Anonymous) and SHAME him about his past! Instead, **GOD’S gospel of amazing grace transforms, gives a whole new identity and empowers even babes in Christ to immediately be useful in God’s Kingdom work, in spite of their (Your!) dark past!**

AGAIN: Yes, your flesh, the world, pastors, and churches tell you that it is fine to divorce. DON’T DO IT. INSTEAD, BE REDEMPTIVE! Don’t you be the one that slams shut the door to forgiveness and miracles of love!

REMEMBER, earthly marriage is designed by God to be a beautiful OBJECT LESSON — A LIVING DEMONSTRATION TO THE WATCHING WORLD of the everlasting love relationship between Jesus and His Church!

REMEMBER: Where would we be had God not extended His love to the undeserving, the unloving and the unresponsive?

***MOST MARRIAGE SAVING MIRACLES** are the result of either the husband or the wife being God's love agent to the undeserving, the unloving, and the unresponsive!*

GOD IS CALLING FOR VISIBLE OBJECT LESSONS OF EVERLASTING LOVE TO BE MODELED BEFORE A NEEDY WORLD! LET US DENY OURSELVES, TAKE UP OUR CROSS OF IDENTIFICATION WITH CHRIST, and FOLLOW JESUS!

Grace to one and all! / James Bell / www.southsidegallatin.org

SOUTHSIDE NEWS NOTES:

SUNDAY SERVICES: JUNE 19, 26 / 2022

1. * Sunday School at 9:30am:** Nursery, Children's classes, Youth, and Adult classes.

2. * WORSHIP SERVICE at 10:45am!**

ADDITIONAL SUNDAY SERVICES:

1. 6/19/22 ... AFTER the MORNING service, we come to THE LORD'S TABLE! WOW! WHAT A TIMELY OPPORTUNITY TO MEDITATE UPON AND REJOICE IN GOD'S LOVE FOR US... EVEN WHEN WE WERE UNDESERVING, UNLOVING, and UNRESPONSIVE!

2. 6/26/22 ... FOURTH SUNDAY EVENING WORSHIP SERVICE at 5PM. (Adam, Bradley, and others give specific preparation for this Service.... and, this month, **Luke Haskins** scheduled to preach.)

EVERY SATURDAY*** 8:00 AM, — Men's Bible Study! (*Doors open by 7:30am... coffee, juice, donuts, and Sausage Biscuits are available!*)

***** NEXT Ladies Bible Study, JULY 5, @ 11:00 AM** (Ladies are taking a 'break'... as to June! **JULY 5 IS THE NEXT!**)

TUESDAYS: WEEKLY Youth Group Meeting, ages 12 and up ... Tuesdays a 7:15pm... at Jaden and Rhi's home...

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS: 6:30pm— come in back 'double doors' under the Drive Thru awning! ** Adult Prayer Service

**** Young FAMILIES Prayer Service [ADAM or Jaden weekly communicate as to LOCATION]**

***** LOVE OFFERINGS UNTO THE LORD BY MAIL or by ONLINE GIVING:**

SUCH funds, (if checks), make out to Southside Baptist) — MAIL TO: Southside Baptist Church, P.O. Box 1594, Gallatin, TN 37066/ OR... TO GIVE via ONLINE GIVING: <https://southsidebaptist.breezechms.com/give/online>

HEALTH REMINDERS as to CHURCH SERVICES AND as to Responding with WISDOM and NOT fear IN SEEKING TO KEEP AS HEALTHY AS WE CAN— SO AS TO BE ACTIVE IN THE KINGDOM BUSINESS OF THE LORD!

1. IF YOU ARE SICK... [OR if you are in a state of high immune deficiency or if (at home or work) you are caring for one who is sick; or if you have • Fever; • Coughing; • Chills; • Headache; • Sore throat; etc.], Please stay home!]

2. IF YOU ARE HEALTHY and well — PLEASE HONOR THE LORD, by continuing to give sensitivity and respect one to another.

3. In addition to *carefulness, good hydration, good nutrition, and sleep*— **SEEK TO BUILD UP A STRONG IMMUNE SYSTEM! (EXAMPLES: ELDERBERRY, VITAMIN C, E, ZINC, GINGER, VITAMIN D, Quercetin, a good multi-vitamin that includes fiber... And Ivermectin)**

4. DO YOUR OWN RESEARCH! BE PROACTIVE! BE PREVENTIVE!

LET each of us DO OUR PART IN personal hygiene — ***please wash your hands with SOAP; and use nearby SANITIZER.***

5. AN EDUCATIONAL resource from ... FROM Doctors who successfully treat covid-19 patients!

=> <https://breggin.com/covid-19-home-treatment/>

6. Peter McCullough, MD, BRIEF; EXCELLENT:

→ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QAHi3lX3oGM>

7. The PDF booklet: A Guide to Home-Based COVID Treatment can be downloaded ... **focus is on PREVENTION and early treatment:**

[COVID Treatment - Truth for Health Foundation](https://www.truthforhealth.org/patientguide/patient-treatment-guide/)
<https://www.truthforhealth.org/patientguide/patient-treatment-guide/>