

World Marriage Day

SERMON OUTLINE

TOPIC: ABUNDANT LIFE IN MARRIAGE. JOHN 10:10

SCRIPTURE READING

OLD TESTAMENT: MALACHI 2 :11-16 | PSALM: 127 & 128
EPISTLE: EPHESIANS 5: 22 -33 | GOSPEL: MATTHEW 19: 3 - 9

Introduction

This marks the 12th World Marriage Day we celebrate as a Church. Each year, we reflect on a specific theme. Past topics have included - Marriage Covenant Blessings, Kingdom of God in Marriage, Marriage is Honorable, Marriage for God's Glory, Marriage Revival and similar topics. The topic chosen for this year is Abundant Life in Marriage (John 10:10).

Abundant Life refers to life in its fullest. Not merely existing. It is a life of joy. It's a life which declares, "my cup runs over." An abundant life comes from following God's ways, pursuing holiness, and seeking to be more like Him. Such a life is only possible through the transforming work of the Holy Spirit. When the River of God flows through our life and our marriage, it sanctifies us with the Word, nourishes us so we become fruitful, and empowers us to be powerful.

The Abundant life in marriage will have the following three characteristics.

1. Sanctified Marriage

BE SANCTIFIED: "For this is the will of God, your sanctification; that is, that you abstain from [sexual immorality; that each of you know how to possess his own vessel in sanctification and honor, not in lustful passion, like the Gentiles who do not know God." 1 Thessalonians 4: 3 - 5.

- To sanctify = set apart for God's purpose; made holy.
- Sanctification is a lifelong process through the Holy Spirit.
- A sanctified marriage is:
 - Cleansed from sin by the blood of Jesus.
 - Committed to Holy living.
 - Set apart for God's purpose.
 - Achieved through the Word of God, the blood of Jesus, and the Holy Spirit's guidance.
- Results of a sanctified marriage:
 - Jesus rules and reigns in the home.
 - Authority over the enemy's schemes.
 - Marriage becomes a lamp—shining Christ's love.
- Jesus who died to sanctify the Church with His blood is coming back again for His Holy Bride (Ephesians 5:27).
- We are His bride. Let us not disappoint Him.
- Call to prepare: ourselves, our marriage, our children, our church, and society.

2. Fruitful Marriage

"I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing." John 15:5

- A fruitful marriage is one where husband and wife intentionally sow seeds that produce godly fruit
- Fruitfulness comes from remaining/abiding in Jesus.
- Jesus defines Himself as the “vine” (the source of life, nutrients, and power) and believers as the “branches”. When we remain connected to Jesus, fruit is inevitable – there will not be barrenness.
- A fruitful marriage includes:
 - One purpose and one goal.
 - Spiritual focus and unity.
 - Consistent prayer life as a couple.
- Every marriage carries a divine calling.
- Key questions:
 - Do we know our calling?
 - Do we know the purpose of our marriage?
- The Holy Spirit guides us into our purpose & calling. May He enable us to be unified in commitment and unwavering in our obedience to God.

3. Powerful Marriage

But as for me, I am filled with power, with the Spirit of the Lord... Micah 3:8

- Once you are in Christ & remain in Him, it's your privilege & heritage to walk in & manifest the Power of God.
- When the River of God flows through our lives and our marriage
 - There is sanctification.
 - There is fruitfulness.
 - God's power is demonstrated.
- A powerful marriage becomes:
 - A sign and wonder.
 - A testimony of breakthroughs.
 - A home of victory and dominion.
 - A marriage for God's glory.

Prayer

Our Father in Heaven, may our marriage and homes be sanctified. Jesus, we acknowledge You are the vine and we are the branches, help us to abide in You and be fruitful. Holy Spirit, fill us with Your power so that our marriages reflect Christ and bring Him glory. And may the abundant life in marriage through Jesus, be ours—today and always. Amen