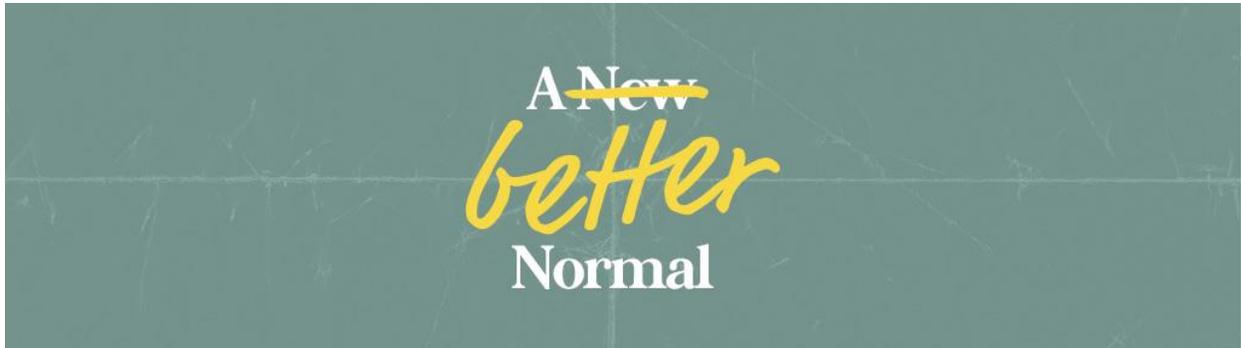




#4 – A New Better Normal

Pastor Nick Jones

[FoothillsBibleChurch.org/sermons](https://FoothillsBibleChurch.org/sermons)



## May 2, 2021 Marriage

Marriage is designed to reflect glory back on Christ. Let us see how we can live out God’s design with our spouse and know a new better marriage.

Why did God design marriage?

Colossians 1:16

16 For by [\[a\]](#) him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him.

Why did God Design marriage?

- To reflect glory back on Christ

Genesis 2:18

18 Then the Lord God said, “It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper fit for [\[a\]](#) him.”

Genesis 2:21-22

21 So the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and while he slept took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. 22 And the rib that the Lord God had taken from the man he made [\[a\]](#) into a woman and brought her to the man.

God is glorified in marriage through **companionship**

God is glorified through our companionship



- When we live God's designed roles

Ephesians 5:22-25

22 Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. 23 For the husband is the head of the wife even as Christ is the head of the church, his body, and is himself its Savior. 24 Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit in everything to their husbands.

25 Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her,

Proverbs 31:26

26 She opens her mouth with wisdom,  
and the teaching of kindness is on her tongue.

God is glorified in marriage through **intimacy**

Genesis 2:24-25

24 Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh. 25 And the man and his wife were both naked and were not ashamed.

God is glorified in marriage through our intimacy

- When we are joyfully and openly intimate

Song of Solomon 4:1a, 7, 9-10

4 Behold, you are beautiful, my love,  
behold, you are beautiful!

7 You are altogether beautiful, my love;  
there is no flaw in you.

9 You have captivated my heart, my sister, my bride;  
you have captivated my heart with one glance of your eyes,  
with one jewel of your necklace.

10 How beautiful is your love, my sister, my bride!  
How much better is your love than wine,  
and the fragrance of your oils than any spice!

God is glorified in marriage through **grace**

Ephesians 5:31-33

31 "Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh." 32 This mystery is profound, and I am saying that it refers to Christ and the church. 33 However, let each one of you love his wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects her husband.

God is glorified in marriage through grace

- When it has no bounds

Revelation 19:6-7



6 Then I heard what seemed to be the voice of a great multitude, like the roar of many waters and like the sound of mighty peals of thunder, crying out,  
"Hallelujah!  
For the Lord our God  
the Almighty reigns.  
7 Let us rejoice and exult  
and give him the glory,  
for the marriage of the Lamb has come,  
and his Bride has made herself ready;

## Growth Group Questions New Better Marriage

[FoothillsBibleChurch.org/growth-groups](http://FoothillsBibleChurch.org/growth-groups)

**Big Idea:** Married or single, your relationship status is meant to glorify God.

**Goal:** Learn to view and treat both marriage and singleness as a gift from God to glorify Him.

### Prepare

This week we are diving into marriage and singleness asking God to show us how both work to His glory and our joy. The personal preparation time and discussion are meant to help us flesh out what we have learned through the sermon and apply it more thoroughly in our lives together.

**Watch** Pastor Nick's sermon, New Better Marriage, noting anything memorable and impactful as you go. You can take notes in the FBC app if you would like.

**Read 1 Corinthians 7.**

**Memorize and Recite Together:** 1 Corinthians 10:31 "So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God."

**Pray** "Father, help us become people who, whether we eat or drink, or whatever we do, we do all to the glory of God."

### Connect

1. What do you wish married people knew about singles? What do you wish single people knew about marriage?
2. If applicable, tell your group something memorable about your wedding day or a special date that you have been on, even if by yourself.

**Discussion** Take some time to personally reflect on these questions after viewing the sermon and before your G2. It could make for a great morning devotional time! You can type and save your responses in the FBC app privately if you would like.

1. **Read 1 Cor. 7:1-5.** Who does your body belong to and how are you treating it as such vs. using it as your own?



- a. How was your view of sex shaped growing up? By your parents? Friends? Culture? What are the lasting effects on you now and how is your view different now?
  
2. **Read 1 Cor. 7:6-9.** How can you treat your marital status as a gift from God and how are you doing with this?
  
3. **Read 1 Cor. 7:10-11.** When you struggle to glorify God through your marriage or singleness or are not finding joy in it through Him, how will you handle it?
  
4. **Read 1 Cor. 7:12-16.** What are some practical, active ways you want to use your marriage or singleness to glorify God and bring life to others?
  
5. **Read 1 Cor. 7:17-24.** Everyone was single at some point. How do you or did you make marriage more important as a goal than your relationship to God?
  
6. **Read 1 Cor. 7:25-35.** What are the challenges of marriage and singleness in living for God's glory and how have you experienced these?
  
7. **Read 1 Cor. 7:36-38.** How will you commit to pursuing holiness despite potential difficulty and come alongside others in the same pursuit?
  
8. **Read 1 Cor. 7:39-40.** How can you find joy in your circumstances and use them to bring joy to others?



**Closing Prayer** This prayer section is a guide to help you process with God what you have learned about Him and yourself through the sermon, personal preparation time, and discussion, then seek the Holy Spirit's power in applying it in your life. Sharing these responses in your G2 will help others gain insight into God and themselves while also helping and encouraging one another toward growth.

1. **Admire:** Praise God for truly fulfilling our deepest longings in Himself.
2. **Admit:** Confess to God ways you undervalue your longings for intimacy.
3. **Aspire:** Pray as a group, "Father, help us become people who, whether we eat or drink, or whatever we do, we do all to the glory of God."
4. **Ask:** Keep track of requests and celebrations from others in your G2 and pray for them.

