



SERIES BIG IDEA:

We are to love and lead in our homes the way our Heavenly Father loves and leads us.

- **I cannot be the perfect parent/person.**
- **I can reflect the Perfect Father by being a godly parent/person who follows Jesus.**
- **God uses marriage/relationships to make us more like Jesus.**
- **God uses children to make us even more like Jesus.**

God is more interested in my holiness than He is my happiness.

The well-being of our children is directly connected to the well-being of our marriage.

<https://www.psychologytoday.com/us/blog/stronger-the-broken-places/201411/the-greatest-gift-you-can-give-your-kids>

MARRIED TEACHING BIG IDEA:

A Jesus-centered marriage is the best gift we can give our children.

SINGLE'S TEACHING BIG IDEA:

A Jesus-centered life is the best gift to give to those around me.

My marriage is the foundation to my family.

Marriage should be honored by all, and the marriage bed kept pure, for God will judge the adulterer and all the sexually immoral.

Hebrews 13:4 (NIV)

Marriage is to be honored because it is a reflection of our Holy God.

They forbid people to marry and order them to abstain from certain foods, which God created to be received with thanksgiving by those who believe and who know the truth.

1 Timothy 4:3 (NIV)

Marriage is a gift from God that we receive with thanksgiving.

³²I would like you to be free from concern. An unmarried man is concerned about the Lord's affairs—how he can please the Lord. ³³But a married man is concerned about the affairs of this world—how he can please his wife—³⁴and his interests are divided. An unmarried woman or virgin is concerned about the Lord's affairs: Her aim is to be devoted to the Lord in both body and spirit. But a married woman is concerned about the affairs of this world—how she can please her husband. ³⁵I am saying this for your own good, not to restrict you, but that you may live in a right way in undivided devotion to the Lord.

1 Corinthians 7:32-35 (NIV)

Marriage is a commitment to the Lord by ministering to our spouse.

Being single is also a gift so we can commit our lives to following Jesus.

¹Follow God's example, therefore, as dearly loved children ²and walk in the way of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

Ephesians 5:1-2 (NIV)

We are to follow God's example of selfless love.



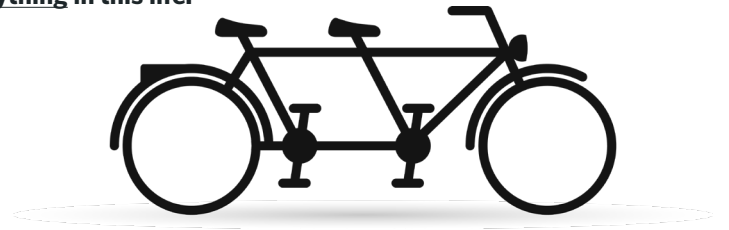
The best gift a husband can give is living Jesus-centered by loving and honoring his wife the way Jesus loves him.

Ephesians 5:21-28

The best gift a wife can give is living Jesus-centered by loving and respecting her husband the way Jesus loves her.

Ephesians 5:33

When Jesus is the center of our lives, we can make it through anything in this life.



STAY CONNECTED:

Download the Westside Leavenworth App in your App Store or visit westsideleavenworth.com

WAYS TO GIVE:

Westside Leavenworth App (on your app store) westsideleavenworth.com/give
text "WestsideLV" to (833) 254-5174



TEACHING SUMMARY:

"I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me." ~ Galatians 2:20

Living a life centered on Christ is the call for all of us who call Jesus, Lord. It is also a gift. A Jesus-centered life is a gift given to us by God through the sacrifice of His son; and, it is a gift for us to give as an example to our spouse, children, and the people around us.

But how easy is it for us to be pulled into a life centered around something other than Jesus? How easy is it for us to find temporary fulfillment in our work, our relationships, our children, or any number of other things?

Those are all good things, but we are called to a God thing that is a life radically committed, in every way, to Jesus.

Is your life centered in such a way that it is a gift to your spouse, your children, and the others in your world? Do you need to repent and let Jesus take His place at the center of your life?

TALK IT OVER:

What would a life with Jesus firmly in the center look like?

What would be different about your life right now?

What, in your life, gets in the way of making Jesus the ultimate center of everything you do?

Do you view your life, in Christ, as a gift to those around you? Your marriage as a gift to your kids? Why or why not?

What is one next step you can take today?

DAILY BIBLE READINGS:

- Mon: Proverbs 22: 5 (AMP)
- Tue: Deuteronomy 4:5-10
- Wed: Hebrews 12:14-17
- Thu: Colossians 2:6-14 (AMP)
- Fri: Matthew 19:1-9
- Sat: Romans 6:1-18