

GOD LOVES THE CHURCH Ephesians 5.25-30

Key Points :

- We are unworthy to be Christ's bride
 - God's people have not always been faithful to Him (Hosea 1:2)
 - We are sinful and in need of Christ's intervention
- God's love is overwhelmingly big
 - Out of His great love, Christ paid the highest price and gave up His life to make us worthy (Jn 15:13; Eph. 5:25-27)
- We (the church) have a responsibility as the bride of Christ
 - Accept Christ's love & reciprocate
 - Repent, submit & remain faithful
 - Unite with Christ in mission & purpose (Eph. 5:31-32)

<u>Questions:</u>

Conversation Starter

1. What do you love most about weddings?

Start Thinking & Sharing

2. Why do you think God chose marriage as an analogy for Christ's relationship with the Church?

- 3. What more can we be doing to fulfil our responsibilities as the bride of Christ?
- 4. How does it make you feel to realise the extent of God's love for us?

5. In what ways have you experienced God's love?

Start praying. Be bold, and pray specifically.

6. Lord God, we thank you for your infinitely deep love for Your Church and for redeeming us, making us worthy through Christ. Please help us to fulfil our responsibilities as Your bride, joining in with your mission, and sharing your deep love with others.

Start doing. Commit to a step, and live it out this week.

7. Pray about where God might be calling you, personally, to get more involved in Christ's mission and the activities of the church. Talk this through with someone involved in those ministries.