

The Vincennes Voice

“...The voice of one crying in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make his paths straight...” (Matt. 3:3)

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JUNE --- THE WEDDING MONTH

Larry R. Ping II

Traditionally, June is the most popular month for weddings. As this is the first Sunday of June, let us consider what the Bible has to say regarding marriage.

1) Marriage Is God-Ordained. Once God had created man from dust (Gen. 2:7) and woman from man’s rib (Gen. 2:22) He said “Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh” (Gen. 2:24). Since marriage is God-ordained, man has not the right to alter it in any way. Jesus reiterated God’s recipe for marriage in Matt. 19:5, as did Paul in Eph. 5:31.

2) Marriage Is Between A Man And Woman. God recognized “It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him” (Gen. 2:18). This is when God produced a woman, Eve, as Adam’s help-meet. In answering the Pharisees Jesus

said “he which made them at the beginning made them male and female” (Matt. 19:4).

3) Marriage Is Intended To Be For Life.

The Lord of Lords said “Wherefore they are no more twain, but one flesh. What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder” (Matt. 19:6). To the Romans it was said “For the woman which hath an husband is bound by the law to her husband so long as he liveth; but if the husband be dead, she is loosed from the law of her husband” (Rom. 7:2).

4) Marriage Is A Good Thing. The wise man penned “Whoso findeth a wife findeth a good thing, and obtaineth favour of the Lord” (Prov. 18:22). It is good in that it helps a man and woman “avoid fornication” (I Cor. 7:2). May it be we see and teach marriage as a good thing!

5) Marriage Requires A Loving Husband. Paul called upon husbands to “love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it” (Eph. 5:25). As well he commanded “So ought men to love their wives as their own bodies. He that loveth his wife loveth himself” (Eph. 5:28).

6) Marriage Necessitates A Submissive Wife. Wives are told to “submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord” (Eph. 5:22). This is so as the “husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church” (Eph. 5:23).

Show me a marriage which begins with God and His Word as a foundation (Eph. 5:21), and includes a husband who loves his wife as he ought, and a wife who respectfully submits to her husband, and I will show you a highly successful and fruitful union. What say ye?

WHEN IT COMES TO SOCIAL MEDIA

Larry R. Ping II

According to recent surveys, 3.8 billion people on Earth have a social media presence. Facebook possesses 2.6 billion world-wide users. There are 500 million TikTok subscribers while there are 262 million Twitter accounts. Snapchat boasts 229 million global users, while Instagram holds 118 million American users. As it is with most anything, social media has its good side, but certainly owns a negative side too. People of God need to be mindful of how they use social media. When it comes to social media, be mindful of...

1) The Information You Post Or Share. Social media is over-flowing with stories. Some are true, many are not. While it may be tempting to share a story because it aligns with your feelings or beliefs, be sure not to be posting false material. The Lord hates “A false witness that speaketh lies” (Prov. 6:19). Moses warned the Israelites not to “raise a false report” (Exo. 23:1).

2) The Pictures You Post Or Share. It is not hard to find on social media pictures of people immodestly dressed. Surprisingly, people of God participate in such activity. Paul ordered “that women adorn themselves in modest apparel” (I Tim. 2:9). This is true whether it is in person or online. The devil works expertly through the “lust of the eye” (I Jn. 2:16). Jesus challenged “whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart” (Matt. 5:28). Do not become the stumbling-block in the pathway of another!

3) The Language You Use Or Share. Foul, course language is normal for most, as is using God’s or Jesus’ name in vain. Not so for Christians! Paul admonished “Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers” (Eph. 4:29). Jesus warned “For by thy words thou shalt be

justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned” (Matt. 12:37). The words you use on social media paint not only a picture of yourself, but of the Lord’s Church as well. What do your words say?

4) The Influence You Exert. Your social media presence acts as an example to those who see it. Paul reported “For none of us liveth to himself, and no man dieth to himself” (Rom. 14:7). Answer this question. Does your social media presence draw others closer to God, or drive them further away? A few moments of “fame” or “laughter” are not worth an eternity in torment (Matt. 25:46).

5) The Good You Can Do. Use social media to pray for those seeking prayers (I Thess. 5:17), to promote God’s Word (Prov. 23:23), to boost services and studies (Heb. 10:25), or to build others up (Rom. 14:19). How would you rate your social media presence?

FIRST CITY CHURCH OF CHRIST

MEETING AT HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS

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MEETING TIMES (EST)

SUNDAY

Bible Study – 10:00 am

Worship – 11:00 am & 3:00 pm

WEDNESDAY

Bible Study – 7:00 pm