

Sermon Series – “Pauline Reflections”

Part 3 – “Seven C’s of Marriage”

Speaker: *Pastor Delthony L. Gordon* **Church:** *Beavercreek SDA – 1/21/2023*

Scripture Reading: Ephesians 5:25-28

The first institution given to humanity by our _____ is that of marriage. _____ in the mind of God, it was given to mankind as the special gift of _____ through which male and female would express the epitome of tender loving _____ for each other. The first _____, Adam and Eve, were brought together by God and made to _____ together by the threefold _____ of divine love. Recognizing that it was through this relationship that God _____ the man and woman to populate the earth, the enemy sought to _____ this union at all _____, and from then partially succeeded in his effort to _____ it. But as the nuptial _____ was God’s idea, He uses it as a model to demonstrate His love for us, and through Paul, gives us _____ on how to be successful in it. Whether you are single, _____, in wedded bliss or amiss, may your heart be blessed by seeing anew _____ matchless love for you!

7 Components of Holy Matrimony

1. Out of love, the *husband* must demonstrate _____ – *v 25; 1 Pet.. 3:7*
2. Possess a Christlike _____ – *verse 25; Col. 3:19; Eph. 4:31*
3. Maintain your connection with the _____ – *verse 25; Luke 4:16*
4. Practice and preserve _____ – *verse 26; Eph. 4:29*
5. Provide and protect open and honest _____ – *verse 26; Col. 4:6*
6. Be ready to give a necessary _____ – *verse 27; Jer. 31:3; James 5:16*
7. Uphold your _____ – *verse 28; Revelation 2:10 (lp)*

In later times Paul the apostle, writing to the Ephesian Christians, declares that the Lord has constituted the husband the head of the wife, to be her protector, the house-band, binding the members of the family together, even as Christ is the head of the church and the Saviour of the mystical body. ¶The grace of Christ, and this alone, can make this institution what God designed it should be—an agent for the blessing and uplifting of humanity. And thus the families of earth, in their unity and peace and love, may represent the family of heaven. **Thoughts from the Mount of Blessing, 64-65**

Will you humbly open your heart to receive God’s LOVE poured out through Christ?