

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE: ISAIAH 62:1-5, EPHESIANS 5:25-32

Isaiah 62:1-5 For Zion's sake I will not keep silent,
for Jerusalem's sake I will not remain quiet,
till her vindication shines out like the dawn,
her salvation like a blazing torch.
2 The nations will see your vindication,
and all kings your glory;
you will be called by a new name
that the mouth of the Lord will bestow.
3 You will be a crown of splendor in the Lord's hand,
a royal diadem in the hand of your God.
4 No longer will they call you Deserted,
or name your land Desolate.
But you will be called Hephzibah,
and your land Beulah;
for the Lord will take delight in you,
and your land will be married.
5 As a young man marries a young woman,
so will your Builder marry you;
as a bridegroom rejoices over his bride,
so will your God rejoice over you.

Ephesians 5:25-32 25 Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her
26 to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, 27 and to present her to
himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless. 28 In this
same way, husbands ought to love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. 29
After all, no one ever hated their own body, but they feed and care for their body, just as Christ does the
church— 30 for we are members of his body. 31 "For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and
be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh." 32 This is a profound mystery—but I am talking
about Christ and the church.

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION with OTHERS

1. What struck you from this sermon and why?
2. What are some of the things that remind us of God's love? How can we be on the lookout for them?
3. What might it look like to give God "everything and nothing"? How do we avoid holding ourselves back from God, on the one hand, and trying really hard to *prove* ourselves or *earn* God's love, on the other?
4. How did this sermon challenge you to view others differently? How might that impact your relationships this week?

PERSONAL PRAYER PROMPTS

1. Jesus, what are some of the things you like about me?
2. Lord, why am I sometimes afraid to say yes to you?
3. Ask God to show you His trustworthiness and give you courage to say yes to Him.

Sermon Notes