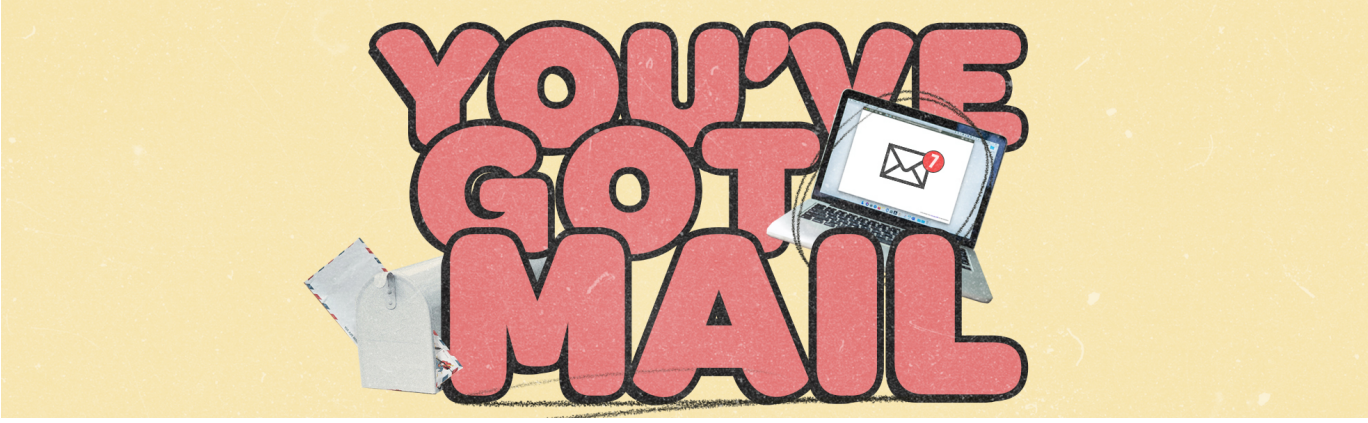

God's Relationship Mail for Marriage - Part 1

Pastor James Heyward

In Ephesians 5 God has some specific mail for wives and for husbands.
Read Ephesians 5:21-33.

1. Are there similarities in the instructions for wives and husbands?

2. Why did Paul feel it necessary to give these instructions concerning marriage?

Marriage is sacred; instituted by God in Genesis (Genesis 2:23-25). The marriage relationship illustrates the relationship between Jesus and the Church.

3. What does Ephesians say about Christ's relationship to the Church?

4. How should the Church respond to Christ?

Wives are to understand and support their husbands. Since we all have different backgrounds, bents, and preferences, understanding and support looks different in each unique relationship.

**5. If you are a husband, how does your wife understand and support you?
Give a specific example.**

**6. If you are a wife, how do you understand and support your husband?
Give a specific example.**

The Christian marriage relationship is a representation to the world of the relationship between Jesus and His bride, the Church. Re-read Ephesians 5:29-33.

7. **How should the way Christ treats you affect how you treat your spouse? How you treat all people?**

8. **We can all be more understanding and supportive. How can you be more understanding and supportive this week?**

<u>Family Discussion Starter:</u>
Explain how marriage and the relationship between Christ and the Church are similar. Talk about how it is important to be understanding and supportive in all our relationships. Name a way you can be more understanding and supportive of one another this week.