



A Cross-Shaped Marriage

Tomorrow, my wife and I will give our second daughter away in marriage to a great Christian young man. Yes, our hearts are full with a myriad of thoughts and emotions, but we are very happy for them. My prayer for Lacey and Will – and for all marriages – is that they will have a **“Cross-Shaped” Marriage**.

There were three nails that held Jesus’ body to the cross for our salvation. Actually it was His love that held him there. By dying on the cross for our sins, Jesus demonstrated the greatest love for you and for me. “This is how God showed His love among us: He sent His one and only Son into the world that we might live through Him. This is love: not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins” (1 John 4:9-10 NIV).

The three nails of Jesus’ cross can stand for *three principles* that are included in a **“Cross-Shaped” marriage**.

The first nail stands for **“Selflessness.”** Jesus’ death on the cross was done out of complete selflessness. He willingly gave His life for us (John 10:17-18). *Selfishness* is the greatest enemy of a happy marriage. Jesus’ death on the cross demonstrates complete *selflessness*, which is crucial to a strong, happy marriage. Read Philippians 2:3-4.

The second nail stands for **“Sacrifice.”** Jesus *gave* His life for us on the cross. The Apostle Paul said, “[Jesus] loved me and gave Himself for me” (Galatians 2:20). Jesus was the ultimate sacrifice that atoned for our sins. Paul, in his letter to the Ephesians, wrote: “Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her” (5:25). This nail in Jesus’ cross should remind us of the sacrificial love that we are to have for one another.

The third nail stands for **“Surrender.”** Jesus surrendered His will to that of His heavenly Father. He prayed in the Garden of Gethsemane, “O My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as You will” (Matthew 26:39). It was the Father’s will that Jesus die on the cross for the sins of the world; there was no other way to save mankind. May this nail in Jesus’ cross always remind us that the greatest thing that a husband and wife can do for their marriage is for each of them to surrender his/her life to Christ. Then, as each one draws closer to Christ, the two will draw closer to one another.

When these principles that are reflected in the nails of Jesus’ cross are applied to a marriage, that marriage will be strong – exactly what God has intended for marriage.

Yet, these same principles are applicable to each one of us – whether we are married or not. The greatest life we can live – the abundant, God-blessed life – is a Cross-Shaped life filled with selflessness, sacrificial love, and surrender to the will of God.

God will save and give eternal life to those who surrender to His will: place your **faith** and trust in Jesus (Acts 16:30-31), turn from sin in **repentance** (Acts 17:30-31), **confess** Jesus before men (Romans 10:9-10), and be **baptized** (immersed) into Christ for the forgiveness of sins (Acts 2:38). Then, continue to live surrendered lives, daily submitting to the will of God as revealed in His Word. As we walk in the light of His Word, the blood that Jesus shed on the cross will continue to cleanse your soul (1 John 1:7).

If you get married, may it be a Cross-Shaped Marriage. Whether you are married or not, may you live a Cross-Shaped Life. It will make an eternal difference.

-- David A. Sargent

Creekwood Church of Christ

“Conservative in Theology • Liberal in Love • Progressive in Ministry”



Minister David A. Sargent	Youth Minister Eric Gray	Family Enrichment Minister Ricky Butts	Missionary (India) Jaya Paul			
		• ELDERS • Ricky Butts Michael Eddlemon Glenn Sargent				
		• DEACONS • Joey Adams Ross Gallaher Terry Livingston Jonathan Brooks Glen Hall Bud McDonald Bruce Englund Wayne Haney Greg Moorer Lyndell Farmer Scott Hardy Sammie Morris	Chris Presley John Sims			
		• SERVICES •				
Sunday	Morning Worship	9:00 AM	Morning Bible Class	10:15 AM	Evening Worship	6:00 PM
Wednesday	Morning Bible Study	10:00 AM	Evening Bible Study	7:00 PM		

March 11, 2018

WELCOME TO CREEKWOOD CHURCH OF CHRIST

We would like to welcome all our visitors to Creekwood! Please sign the guest register in the foyer. We also invite you to stay for our Bible classes immediately following morning worship services.

TODAY’S MESSAGES:

AM – “Take Heart” – Eric Gray
PM – Sermon by Glenn Sargent

Listening Devices for the Auditorium are available in the Control Room.

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Web site: www.creekwoodcc.org • E-mail: creekwoodchurchofchrist@comcast.net

Know Your Bible on Mediacom channel 33/Comcast channel 7; Sundays at 6:00 PM CT.

Getting To Know Your Bible on DirecTV Channel TCT 377; M-F at 9:30 PM CT.

Both of these broadcasts are co-sponsored by the Creekwood Church of Christ.

[Please Remember Those Listed Below In Your Prayers;](#)

[And With Other Expressions Of Love \(Cards, Phone Calls, Visits\)](#)

[OUR COUNTRY & THOSE SERVING:](#) Chris Campbell (Sicily)

[OUR MISSIONARY:](#) Jaya Paul

[EXPECTING MOTHERS:](#) Halle Poe (June - girl); Jennifer Butts (July - girl)

[PRAYER REQUEST](#) for **Kitty Morris** who will undergo a cornea transplant Tuesday morning. Please pray for Kitty, Sammie, and the Doctors administering to her.

[PRAYER REQUEST](#) for **Linda Bracewell** who underwent gall bladder surgery this past Wednesday. She came through the surgery well. Please pray for Linda, Joe, and their family.

[PRAYER REQUEST](#) for **Wayne Buzbee** who underwent surgery to have a skin cancer removed. Please pray for Wayene, Fran, and their family.

[PRAYER REQUEST](#) for **Lorene Fuller** who is taking treatments for her eyes. She goes each week for a treatment. Please pray for Lorene.

[PRAYER REQUEST](#) for **Eunice Warsh** who is undergoing hyperbaric oxygen treatments to promote healing of her leg. Please pray for Eunice and Al.

[PRAYER REQUEST](#) for **Cecil Wiggins** who is recovering from the flu. Please pray for Cecil and her family.

[OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHY](#) is extended to the family of **Jessie Christian**, grandmother of **Diane Eddlemon**. Her funeral services were held this past Friday. Please pray for the Christian family.

[PRAYER REQUEST](#) for **Pat Smith** who returned home this past Wednesday to their new location at Atria Regency. Please pray for Pat, Ernie, and Valary. Please update your directory.

[PRAYER REQUEST](#) for **Warren Cornelius** who returned home from rehab this past Thursday. He will undergo therapy at home. Please pray for Warren and his family.

[PRAYER REQUEST](#) for **Bob Shelley** who has been placed under Hospice care at the William F. Green State Veterans Home in Bay Minette. He has been residing and receiving care at that location. Please pray for Bob and Sonya.

[PRAYER REQUEST](#) for **Pat Parenteau** who is improving slowly and misses everyone. Please pray for Pat & Bill!

[PRAYER REQUEST](#) for **Sue Cade** who is residing at Mobile Nursing & Rehabilitation. Please pray for Ms. Sue. She loves cards and visits.

[MEMBERS:](#) Ross & Jennifer Fetner, Patrice Sargent, Joy McDonald, Margaret Gill, Kathy Stacy, Margaret Montalban, Sue Cade, Helen Parham, Cecil Wiggins, Bonnie Crabtree, Bob and Sonja Shelley, Ken Grisham, Bob and Jeannie Aldred, Richard McDonald, Pat & Ernie Smith, David Devitt, George Rohm, Pat & Bill Parenteau..

[FAMILY & FRIENDS OF MEMBERS:](#) **Joe Williams** (son-in-law of Elton & Betty Carolyn Love); **Connie Allen** (James Cunningham's aunt), **Paul Meacham** (member of Montgomery COC); **Lisa Andrews** (Shelia Marcet's sister); **Paige Prine** (former member); **Esther Boulanger** (Nelly Eddlemon's Mother), **Martin McGowan** (Carol Weaver's dad); **Sally Tindell** (sibling of Nancy Moorer); **Michael Jury**; **Doris McClantoc** (George Rohm's sister), **Elizabeth Giddens**, **Irma Brown** (Janet Oglesby's mother); **Dawn Harden** (Joey Adams' mother); **Bill Patton** (Rob Hayes' grandfather), **Barry Prim** (Mike Eddlemon's step-father), **Tom Roberts**, **Alan Brown** (former member), **Boots Carson** (Mother of Gina Englund and Ka Kinman) **Shirley Autrey** (Mother of Traci Moorer), **Wayne Brown** (Janet Oglesby's brother), **Vivian Walker**, and **Pat Clay** (sister of Peggy Buckley) and **Savannah Turner** (granddaughter of Earl & Becky Turner).

[SHUT-INS](#) – **J.T. Montgomery**, **Retha Capps**, **Bonnie Crabtree**, **Helen Parham**, **Bob Shelley**, **Margaret Montalban**, **Barbara Roley**

[PICTURE BOARD](#) - On each Sunday in March, Chris Presley will be available in the church office immediately after Sunday Morning Worship to take pictures for the picture board. We would like to encourage our newer families to have their pictures made as well as anyone who needs an updated picture.

[ADULT REGISTRATION FEES FOR L2LL](#) is now due. Cost is \$40 per adult attending the convention. Please make checks out to Creekwood and on the memo line write L2LL adult fees. Please give payments to Glen or Holly.

[L2LL SCHEDULE:](#)

- **Sunday, March 11**
- 3:30- 4:30- puppets- All teams
- 5pm- Bible Bowl- those not attending Area Wide @ Regency

- **Sunday, March 18**
- 3pm- Puppet- Roley team
- 4pm- Puppets- Hall & Gray teams
- 5pm- Speech
- 6pm- Bible bowl

- **Sunday, March 25**
- AM- Services at Creekwood
- PM- 3:30pm- Puppets – Hall team
- 4pm- Roley and & Gray team
- 5pm – ALL Bible Bowl Teams compete against each other

[WEDNESDAY NIGHT MEAL:](#)

March 14- TBA

March 24- TBA (We are doing 2 weeks in a row due to the L2LL Convention.)

[CHORUS FROM FREED HARDEMAN](#)-The chorus from Freed Hardeman University will be in our area on **March 24th & 25th**. They would like to sing for Creekwood after the Sunday morning service on March 25th. We will need a few more volunteers to house the chorus. They will arrive on Saturday, March 24th at 4:30 p.m. and will worship with Creekwood on Sunday morning. There will be a fellowship meal following services and then the chorus will sing for us. **There are a few slots available. Please sign-up at the welcome center today.**

[FELLOWSHIP MEAL](#) following the a.m. services on **Sunday, March 25th**. After the meal the Freed Hardeman chorus will sing for us. Everyone is invited to attend. Please bring your favorite dishes and join us for the fellowship and meal followed by the Freed Hardeman chorus. **Remember we will be feeding the chorus so please bring extra!**

[THANK YOU!](#) Dear Creekwood Family, Don't know where to begin to thank you. I have been the receiver of prayers, cards, food, drawings, etc. Never have I seen such an outpouring of love and concern. To have food ready for folks after the Memorial Service is very much appreciated. The food was delicious. **In Christian love, Janet Shelton**

[DEAREST FRIENDS](#), We want to thank you for all of your expressions of kindness. The service for Ed was comforting and touched our hearts. We truly appreciate all you have done for the entire family. Happiness is having friends like you. Your kindness is such a blessing. **Love Leroy & Suzanne McGaughy**

[THANK YOU!!](#) On behalf of our entire family, thank you for your help and for your prayers in the wedding of Lacey & Will. Our church family, family, and friends have helped us through the wedding and so much more. Thank you for your love and influence in the lives of our family members. In Christian love, **David & Patrice Sargent**

[DEAR CHURCH FAMILY](#), Thank you, thank you for your get well wishes. You are sincerely appreciated. My leg is slowly improving; we are not called "patients" for nothing. We have to earn our titles. Thank you again, and God bless you. **In Christian love, Eunice Warsh**

[JOB OPPORTUNITIES AT FAULKNER UNIVERSITY MOBILE CAMPUS](#)

Admissions Counselor:

https://www.prospera.com/CareerHubViewer/Post.aspx?ID=FaulknerUniversity_external_j3FHf48GbEw9_Checksum=PRS358

Extension Director:

https://www.prospera.com/CareerHubViewer/Post.aspx?ID=FaulknerUniversity_external_Ln39Jsa2PZc7_Checksum=PRS358

God Won't Ask

On the Day of Judgment, God won't ask the following questions:

- **God won't ask** what kind of car we drove, but He'll ask how many people we drove who didn't have transportation.
- **God won't ask** the square footage of our house, but He'll ask how many people we welcomed into our home.
- **God won't ask** about the clothes we had in our closet, but He'll ask how many others we clothed.
- **God won't ask** about our social class, but He'll ask what kind of class we displayed.
- **God won't ask** how many material possessions we had, but He'll ask if they dictated our life.
- **God won't ask** what our highest salary was, but He'll ask if we compromised our principles to obtain it.
- **God won't ask** how much money we spent on our self, but He'll ask how much we gave back to Him.
- **God won't ask** how much overtime we worked, but He'll ask if our overtime was for our self or for our family.
- **God won't ask** how many promotions we received, but He'll ask how we promoted others.
- **God won't ask** what our job title was, but He'll ask if we performed our job to the best of our ability.
- **God won't ask** what we did to help our self, but He'll ask what we did to help others.
- **God won't ask** how many friends we had, but He'll ask how many people to whom we were a friend.
- **God won't ask** what we did to protect our "rights," but He'll ask what we did to protect the rights of others.
- **God won't ask** in what neighborhood you lived, but He'll ask how you treated your neighbors.
- **God won't ask** about the color of our skin, but He'll ask about the content of our character.
- **God won't ask** how many times our deeds matched our words, but He'll ask how many times they didn't.
- **God won't ask** if His Son loved us, but He'll ask if we loved His Son.

~Source Mike Riley