

¹⁰“Take heed that you do not despise one of these little ones, for I say to you that in heaven their angels always see the face of My Father who is in heaven. ¹¹For the Son of Man has come to save that which was lost. ¹²“What do you think? If a man has a hundred sheep, and one of them goes astray, does he not leave the ninety-nine and go to the mountains to seek the one that is straying? ¹³And if he should find it, assuredly, I say to you, he rejoices more over that *sheep* than over the ninety-nine that did not go astray. ¹⁴Even so it is not the will of your Father who is in heaven that one of these little ones should perish. ¹⁵“Moreover if your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault between you and him alone. If he hears you, you have gained your brother. ¹⁶But if he will not hear, take with you one or two more, that ‘by the mouth of two or three witnesses every word may be established.’ ¹⁷And if he refuses to hear them, tell *it* to the church. But if he refuses even to hear the church, let him be to you like a heathen and a tax collector. ¹⁸“Assuredly, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. ¹⁹“Again I say to you that if two of you agree on earth concerning anything that they ask, it will be done for them by My Father in heaven. ²⁰For where two or three are gathered together in My name, I am there in the midst of them.”—Mt. 18.

Sunday: **What did Jesus come primarily to do? Give thanks** for the growth in the number of children attending Sharon (Morning Sun, Iowa) RPC; **pray** that their Sunday school teachers would effectively encourage biblical growth and understanding. **Pray** for Newry (Northern Ireland) RPC, as repair work on the building that was flooded a year ago is slow.

Monday: **How should we apply vv. 12-14 to us? Pray** with Anugraha (Bangalore, India) RPC as they beseech the Lord for men gifted and equipped to be set apart for church planting so that they can begin to form a presbytery. **Pray** that the evangelistic efforts of Glenmanus (Northern Ireland) RPC in their neighborhood would bear fruit.

Tuesday: **If someone in church has offended, should you gossip about it? Please pray** for the RPGM short-term mission team leaders as they will be starting nine weeks of training in January. **Pray** with the RP fellowship in Nantes, France, that its new building would attract visitors who would come to faith in Jesus.

Wednesday: **What should be the three steps of church discipline? Pray** that the elders and deacons at River Valley (Monaca, Pa.) RPC would continue to serve the congregation and work together in unity. **Give thanks** with Carrickfergus (Northern Ireland) RPC for the new people who have been coming regularly to services.

Thursday: **V. 17 is describing excommunication; what is that? Pray** for the Lord to bless the families of all RPCNA church planters. **Pray** for the new mother and toddlers group at Galway (Ireland) RPC.

Friday: **Does the church have the power to cast people into hell or to let them into heaven? If not, then what does v. 18 mean? Please pray** with Belle Center, Ohio, RPC for Pastor Phil Pockras as he pursues his hospital chaplain work, as well as his pastoring. **Pray** for the evangelistic efforts of Lisburn (Northern Ireland) RPC

Saturday: **Why is it important for Jesus to be present in discipline matters? Pray** that God would bless Topeka, Kan., RPC with families with children. **Pray** many would be in attendance at the first worship service in 2025 at Atlanta RPC.

Atlanta Reformed Presbyterian Church

The Lord's Day
December 29, 2024

Meeting every week at
574 Western Avenue
(corner of Western and Walnut Street)
Atlanta, Georgia
Worship at 3:30 PM

Pastor Frank J. Smith, Ph.D., D.D.

franksmith76@gmail.com
https://atlanta-rpc.org
(770)241-3946

Proclaiming the Kingship of Jesus Christ

Welcome and Announcements

Scripture Memory and Catechism Questions

The Call to Worship Psalm 84:1-2

*The Invocation

*Psalm 47A "All Peoples, Clap Your Hands for Joy"

Scripture Reading Genesis 2:18-25

*Psalm 127B "Except the Lord Build the House"

Pastoral Prayer

*Psalm 48B "In Our God's City We Have Seen"

Scripture Text I Corinthians 7:1-17

The Sermon "Marriage!"

*Prayer

*Psalm 128A "How Blessed All Who Fear the Lord"

*Benediction

*Psalm 117A "O All Ye Nations of the Earth"

** Congregation will please stand.*

We are so glad that you could join us today! Please be sure to return next week and bring a friend.

Scripture Memory and Catechism Questions & Answers

I Timothy 1:17: "Now unto the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only wise God, be honour and glory for ever and ever. Amen." Mark 16:19: "So then, after the Lord had spoken to them, He was received up into heaven, and sat down at the right hand of God." Psalm 119:5: "O that my ways were directed to keep thy statutes!" Psalm 95:4: "For the Lord is a great God, and a great King above all gods."

Q. 23. What offices doth Christ execute as our redeemer? A. Christ, as our redeemer, executeth the offices of a prophet, of a priest, and of a king, both in his estate of humiliation and exaltation.

Q. 70. Which is the seventh commandment? A. The seventh commandment is, Thou shalt not commit adultery.

Q. 71. What is required in the seventh commandment? A. The seventh commandment requireth the preservation of our own and our neighbor's chastity, in heart, speech and behavior.

For your convenience, a tithe box is located at the back.

Theme: Paul teaches us the importance of marriage.

Introduction—marriage goes back to the creation week

- God made Eve from a rib of Adam
- Both man and woman are made in God's image
- And yet, they are complementary
- As they come together, they become one flesh
- Marriage is between one man and one woman

I. Benevolence

A. Giving what is owed—an act of love; one's own body

B. Sacrificial—serving with a sacrificial spirit

C. Selfless—love seeks not its own and is not puffed up

II. Benefits

A. Avoiding temptation

B. A positive good—it's not good for man to be alone

1. Strengthening of both partners
2. Giving a sense of well-being
3. Health benefits
4. Economic benefit
5. Spiritual benefit

C. Blessing

1. Christ Himself blesses a couple that marries in the Lord
2. The unbelieving partner is blessed, and may come to faith
3. The children are holy (v. 14)

III. Bond

A. It is a symbol of union between God and His people

B. It is a permanent bond (vv. 15, 27a)

Observations

A. There are only two sexes or genders—male and female

B. The norm is marriage—it is natural and customary

Application

A. Celebrate marriage—and seek marriage

B. Be faithful to Christ, who has married His church