

## FOUR BASIC NEEDS OF EVERY PERSON AND SPOUSE – Session 4

(The Need for Purpose)

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We are considering 4 basic needs every person has, and how Jesus Christ wants to meet these needs in our lives. Boaz, who is a picture of Jesus Christ, met the needs Naomi and Ruth had for **acceptance** instead of **rejection**, **security** instead of **insecurity**, and a new **identity**.

Naomi and Ruth also needed **purpose in life**. They were both childless widows because of painful losses in life. When a person or a married couple go through painful losses in life, it can seem like they no longer have a purpose.

The 4<sup>th</sup> basic need is for:

### 1. Purpose – To Discover our Purpose

- 1) Dictionary definition - “The reason for which something exists or happens, or an intended result, goal, or aim”.
- 2) If you are creative or design and make or invent something, you begin with having a purpose or plan for whatever you are designing.
- 3) To understand our purpose, we must begin with our designer.  
Rick Warren – Purpose Driven Life – “You exist only because God wills that you exist. You were made **by** God and **for** God, and until you understand that, life will never make sense. It is only in God we discover our origin, our identity, our meaning, our purpose, our significance, and our destiny. Every other path leads to a dead end.”  
Col. 1:16 – 17, Jer. 29:11-13
- 4) What does God’s Word say about God’s purposes for us as individuals?  
Ps. 33:11 –  
Prov. 19:21 –

### 2. What was God’s Purpose for Boaz, Naomi and Ruth?

- 1) Boaz acted as the Kinsman Redeemer, and bought back the land that belonged to Naomi’s husband and family.
- 2) He married Ruth. They had a son who would carry on the family inheritance. Ruth 4:13b  
Who was their son?  
He became the grandfather of King David and it was through the lineage of David God promised to send the Messiah – The Lord Jesus who would act as the Kinsman Redeemer for all of mankind, including us, and will one day set up His Kingdom to rule and reign over the earth. – Luke 1:30-33, Rev. 20:4, 6
- 3) What did the women in the community tell Naomi? – Ruth 4:14-15
  - a) What did their words affirm?

- b) What was the new purpose God gave Naomi and Ruth? (Cmp. Ruth 4:18-21, Matt. 1:1-16, and Luke 3:23-38)
- c) Jesus Christ became our near relative so He could fulfill all the responsibilities of our Kinsman Redeemer and Savior.
- d) How do Boaz, Ruth and Naomi have a part in God's plan of salvation?

### 3. God has a plan and purpose for every one of us.

- 1) To experience God's redemptive purposes in our life we must belong to Jesus Christ. (Cmp. Eph. 2:10, Rom. 8:28-30)
- 2) Once we belong to Jesus Christ, what must we do? Rom. 12:1-2, Phil. 2:13

### 4. If we are married, we must recognize God has special plans and purposes for our marriage.

- 1) There are 2 primary passages in Genesis revealing God's plan and purpose for marriage.
  - a) Gen. 1:28 –
  - b) Gen. 2:18, 22-24 –
  - c) Through marriage the man is no longer alone, no longer incomplete, and together they were to demonstrate the oneness and glory of God through unity and fulfill the purposes and plans God had for them.
- 2) Another aspect of God's purpose for marriage isn't revealed until the New Testament. It was a mystery.

### 5. How many of you like an exciting mystery? What makes a good mystery?

- 1) Marriage is associated with a "great mystery" in Eph. 5:30-31?
- 2) God established marriage in Gen. 2, but doesn't reveal the **significance** of marriage until much later in history. (His Story)  
 Dr. Warren Wiersbe - "In the N.T. a mystery is a truth that was hidden by God in times past and is now revealed to those who are in His family. A mystery is a "sacred secret" that is unknown to unbelievers but understood and treasured by the people of God."
- 3) In the O.T. we see Israel as God's chosen people. God was working out His plans and purposes through them. Jesus came as an Israelite. He died to redeem us from our sins and after His resurrection, went back to heaven. On the Day of Pentecost the Holy Spirit was sent by God to indwell believing Israelites and the N.T. church began in Acts 2.

- a) However, believing Jews did not understand or easily accept the truth that God would include Gentiles in His plan of salvation.
- 4) In the Ephesians Paul begins to unfold the mystery of God bringing Jews and Gentiles together through Jesus Christ to form the universal church. (Eph. 1:10-14, 2:11-22, 3:2-11)
- a) In Ruth 4 we see God starting a new family. A Jewish man (Boaz) marries a Gentile bride (Ruth). They become one and have a son. Who was Boaz's father married to?  
(Cmp. Ruth 4:21, Matt. 1:5, Josh. 2)
- b) In this beautiful love story of redemption, we see Jews and Gentiles becoming one through marriage. Keep this in mind as we go on.
- 5) The key verses of Eph. 5:31-32, connect marriage, as God ordained it, with this mystery of the church (bride) of Jesus Christ.  
Ephesians 5:31-32 - "For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh. This is a **profound (great) mystery** – but I am talking about **Christ and the church.**"

**Why does Paul connect marriage with this mystery?** What is our marriage a picture of? What was the marriage of Boaz (a believing Jew) to Ruth (a believing Gentile), a picture of?

Let's solve this mystery.

**Ephesians 2:11-22** - Therefore, remember that formerly you who are Gentiles by birth and called "uncircumcised" by those who call themselves "the circumcision" (which is done in the body by human hands)— remember that at that time you were separate from Christ, excluded from citizenship in Israel and foreigners to the covenants of the promise, without hope and without God in the world. But now in **Christ Jesus you (Gentiles) who once were far away have been brought near by the blood of Christ.** For He Himself is our peace, who has made the two groups one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility, by setting aside in His flesh the law with its commands and regulations. **His purpose was to create in Himself one new humanity out of the two (Jews & Gentiles),** thus making peace, and in **one body to reconcile both of them to God through the cross,** by which he put to death their hostility. He came and preached peace to you (Gentiles) who were far away and peace to those (Israelites) who were near. **For through him we both have access to the Father by one Spirit.** Consequently, you (Gentiles) are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with God's people and members of God's household, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone. **In Him the whole building is joined together** and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord. And in Him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by His Spirit."

**Eph. 3:4, 6**

**“In reading this, then, you will be able to understand my insight into the mystery of Christ, This mystery is that through the gospel the Gentiles are heirs together with Israel, members together of one body, and sharers together in the promise in Christ Jesus.**

- 6) God established marriage with **the purpose** that marriage between a man and a woman, was to be a future picture of the universal church, made up of **2 completely different groups** (Jews & Gentiles), who like a husband and wife, are so different in many ways, but who are **living in love and peace and unity** with one another as the image bearers of God.
- 7) We are to work through our differences and disagreements in a Christ-like way, so it results in harmony, unity and like-mindedness.

What did the early Jerusalem Church do in Acts 6:1-7 to resolve a divisive issue?

What was the result? - v.7

- 8) How will seeing unity and oneness or disharmony and disunity demonstrated in our marriage relationship impact others and our family?

Cmp John 17:11-12a, 13-18, 20-23

- 9) So, one of God’s purposes for marriage is to be a picture of the church of Jesus Christ demonstrating God’s love and oneness so people will believe on Jesus as their Savior and grow in Him.

What normally results when two become one in marriage and share together in sexual intimacy?

As Christians live and walk in love and unity it results in evangelism and discipleship.

**6. Another part of God’s plan and purpose for the Christian marriage is to be a picture of Jesus Christ’s relationship with His church and His church’s relationship with Jesus.**

- 1) What kind of a relationship do you believe Boaz and Ruth had after they got married?

- 2) What kind of a relationship is the Christian husband to have with his wife?

Eph. 5:21, 25-29, 33a, Col. 3:19, 1 Pet. 3:7-9

- 3) What kind of a relationship is the Christian wife to have with her husband?

Eph. 5:22-24, 33b, Col. 3:18, 1 Pet. 3:1-6, 8-9

4) The Christian husband's love for his wife is to reflect the love Jesus has for His bride, and the Christian wife's response to her husband is to picture our loving response to Jesus as our Savior and eternal Bridegroom.

5) Is your marriage a picture of Jesus Christ's relationship with His bride? If not what must change?

<sup>3rd</sup> Purpose God has for believers in Christ (the universal church) and the Christian marriage.

**7. To demonstrate God's redemptive wisdom and power to the angelic rulers and authorities – Eph. 3:10-11 (Holy and Unholy Angels).**

1) Satan is a rebel and is trying to be God in this universe.

2) What were Adam and Eve to do? - Gen. 1:28

They were to manage and administrate the earth and everything on it for God. (Ps. 8:4-8)

When they disobeyed God, they surrendered their role as God's administrators over this world to Satan who became the "prince" or ruler over this world system. Mankind would need to be redeemed and delivered from Satan's kingdom.

3) God's plan of redemption of mankind was first prophesied in Gen. 3:15. What did God tell Satan?

This was the first of many promises of the coming of Jesus (the seed of the woman) to redeem mankind and re-establish God's administration and rulership over this world system.

How do we see the threads of this wonderful truth in the book of Ruth?

Boaz pictures Jesus as our Redeemer, and David is the great great grandson of Boaz of the tribe of Judah.

God promised King David he would have a descendent (seed) who would rule over the nation of Israel and the world one day. – 2 Sam. 7:16, Luke 1:29-33

Jesus will one day return and His bride (the church) will help administrate His kingdom.

4) What is Satan's goal?

Keep God's kingdom from being established on the earth.

Keep people from trusting Jesus as their Savior.

Hinder believers from victoriously reigning in life through Jesus Christ.

Eph. 6:10-12 describes the spiritual battle we are in.

See chart of the authority structure of Satan's Kingdom

Believers are in a spiritual battle. However, in Ephesians Paul emphasizes believers are "IN CHRIST".

# THE KINGDOM OF DARKNESS



## SATAN - Prince of the Power of the Air

*Ephesians 2:2*

**Angelic Rulers**  
*Daniel 10: 13-21*

**Principalities**  
*Ephesians 6:12*

**POWERS**

**POWERS**

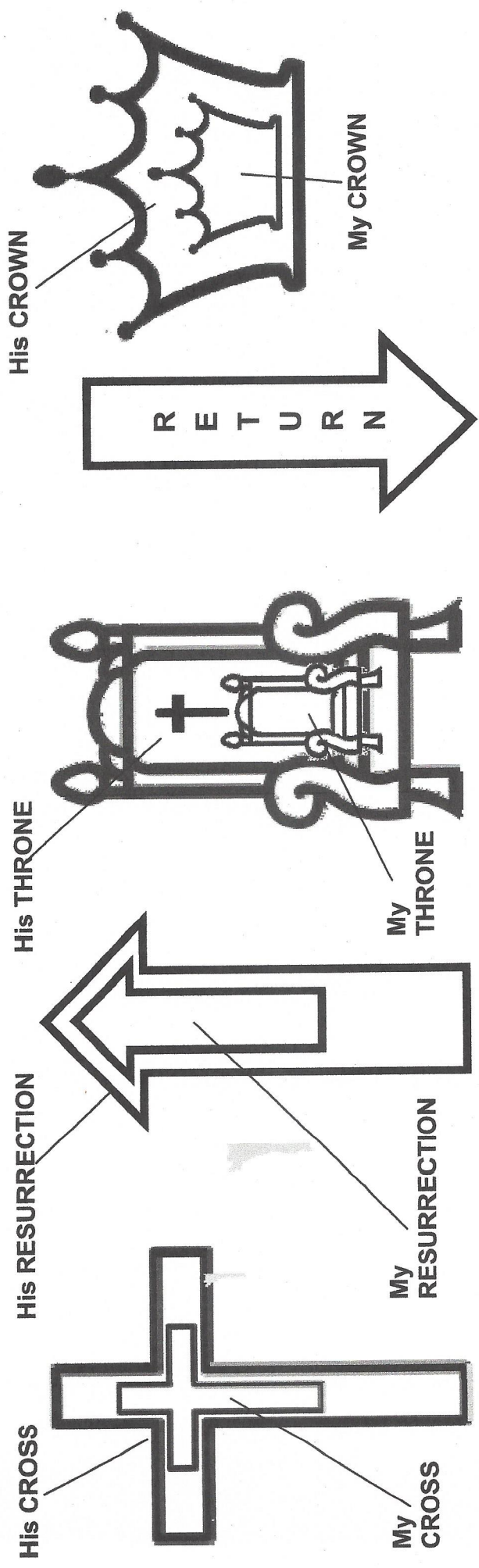
**POWERS**

**FORCES OF DARKNESS**

**WICKED SPIRITS**

*Ephesians 2:2, II Corinthians 4:4, I John 5:19*

# Believer's Legal Position in Christ



- CO-CRUCIFIXION**
- Luke 9:23
  - Gal. 2:20; 5:24
  - Heb. 2:14, 15

- CO-RESURRECTION**
- Rom. 6:3-11
  - Col. 2:13-15; 3:1
  - Eph. 2:1-5

- CO-EXALTATION**
- Eph. 1:18-22
  - Eph. 2:6

- CO-REIGN**
- II Tim. 2:12
  - Col. 3:4
  - Rev. 22:5

- SUBJECTION OF**
- Angels
  - Principalities
  - Powers
  - I Pet. 3:22
  - I Cor. 6:2-3
  - Phil. 2:9-11

**Set your mind on your legal position in Christ**

- 5) In Eph. 1:9-10 speaks of a future day when God will set up the **administration** of Jesus Christ's rulership on earth. – Cmp. (Rev. 19:6-16, 20:1-6)
- 6) However, God wants to show His Kingdom power and authority to Satan and evil angels **NOW!**  
**How?** Through the body of Christ which is to be the fullness of Christ on earth today. To do this we must understand and apply our legal position in Christ? Eph. 1:18-23  
(See chart of our legal position in Christ)

What are we to do from our legal position? - Eph. 3:8b –11

We are to demonstrate God's redemptive wisdom and power in redeeming us out of Satan's kingdom, making us alive in Christ, and raising us up in with Him and seating us with Him in the heavenly places, far above Satan and all evil angelic powers.

Where else are believers to reign? Through whom are we to reign in life? - Rom. 5:17

#### 8. **How do we demonstrate God's redemptive wisdom and power to the angelic rulers and authorities?**

The key is found in Paul's 2<sup>nd</sup> prayer for believers found in Eph. 3:16-19.

What does Paul pray for these believers and for all believers?

- 1) To be strengthened with power by the Holy Spirit in their inner being. v. 16 – Why?
- 2) That Christ would “dwell” in your hearts – v. 17a - “be at home at”
- 3) To be rooted and established in God's love and begin understanding and experiencing the vast dimensions of God's love. - v. 17b-19a
- 4) What will be the result? – v. 19b

**Illustration:** We have used this container to represent a person's life.

The **small rocks** in the container represent one's identity **apart** from Jesus Christ, such as what they **do**, or their **role** in life, or **character**, or **physical** condition. Apart from Jesus Christ our identity as the image bearers of God is flawed.

The **gravel** poured into the container represents the **believer's new identity in Christ.**

(See Session 3 part 2)

The **colored sand** poured into the container represents the believer's need to surrender to the Lord Jesus and **allow His Spirit to control** and empower us.

Is this container full?



What is the last step of this illustration?

5) What is God's purpose for all believers, including those who are married? – v. 19b

6) This gives us purpose in this life and for all eternity.

**9. What will be the result of this prayer being a reality in our lives?**

1) God will be glorified. - Eph. 3:20-21

2) It will powerfully impact our Christian lives, marriages, and churches. How?

There will be unity – Eph. 4:1-6

Spiritual maturity – Eph. 4:7-16

Living holy lives and putting away of sin in our lives – Eph. 4:17- 5:17

Being controlled by the Holy Spirit – Eph. 5:18-20

Godly Christ honoring marriages and family relationships – Eph. 5:21 - 6:4

3) We will put on the whole armor of God, and use our **legal position** in Christ, and the **spiritual weapons** of prayer and the Word of God to see people set free from sin and Satan's Kingdom. (Eph. 3:12, Eph. 6:10-18, 2 Cor. 10:3-5)

4) God's eternal purposes will be fulfilled in and through us as the body and bride of Jesus Christ.

**In Conclusion:**

**There are 4 Basic Needs All of Us Have**

1) Acceptance

2) Security

3) Identity – Significance and Value

4) Purpose

All found through a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

## Similarities Between Marriage and the Church

### Marriage

1. Adam was alone, God put him to sleep, opened his side, took a rib and formed Eve and brought her to Adam to be **one with him**. She was formed out of a wound in his side from His body.
2. Formed as a permanent covenant ordained by God
3. Two different people (male & female) become one **with each other** - Gen. 2:24, Eph. 5:31
4. A profound (great – megas) mystery – Eph. 5:31-32 that pictures Christ and His Church
  - a. God makes the two one flesh, and one body  
God works to do away all that divides them
  - b. To reflect unity and God's oneness in marriage
  - c. Be fruitful and multiply – Gen. 1:28
5. The Marriage Relationship, Roles, & Responsibilities
  - a. Husband loving with self-sacrificing love
  - b. The husband nurturing, cherishing
  - c. The husband leading in love
  - d. The wife willingly submitting to her husband's leadership as He submits to Christ, reverencing and respecting him
  - e. The husband helping his wife grow spiritually through sharing the Word of God with her in a way that encourages and helps her to grow spiritually
6. Rule over the earth for God  
Reigning together in life with Christ, using our position, and the weapons of our warfare, putting on the armor of God against Satan 2 Cor. 10:3-5  
Eph. 6:10-18

### The Church (Bride of Christ)

1. Formed because of a wound in His side.  
Every believer is **one with Christ**.  
2 Cor. 11:2, Eph. 2:4-6, Phil. 2:1-2
2. The Marriage of Christ to His Church (Bride) is based on our entering into the New Covenant - Eternal
3. Jew and Gentile become one **with Christ** – Eph. 1:3-23  
Col. 1:26-27, 2:6-7, 9-13, 3:1-4
4. A mystery reconciling Jews and Gentiles to God through the blood of Christ – Eph. 2:14
  - a. God makes Jews and Gentiles one body in Christ destroying barriers between – 2:15-18, 3:6-7,9
  - b. Reflect unity and oneness through Jesus – Eph. 4:1-6
  - c. Be fruitful and multiply through evangelism
5. The Relationship Between Christ and His Church
  - a. Christ's self-sacrificing love for His Church
  - b. Christ's nurturing and cherishing
  - c. Christ's leadership of the Church
  - d. The church willingly submitting to Jesus Christ and His leadership, reverencing and respecting Him  
Eph. 5:33
  - e. Christ washing his church (believers) with the so we are being sanctified, growing, and being prepared to meet Him and for our future with Him.
6. Demonstrate God's redemptive wisdom and power to the angelic rulers and authorities, (to the angelic realm of holy and unholy angels – Eph. 3:10-11), resulting in God being glorified for His wonderful plan of redemption and salvation