I Declare: Marriage & Relationships Edition
Week 3: Our Marriage will be We>me
CCV Sermon Guide

OPENING QUESTION:
What's a funny expectation you've had in a relationship that turned out to be completely different from reality?

STUDY COMPANION VIDEO

READ:
James 4:1
Ephesians 5:21-33

DISCUSS:
1. Think of a time when you expected something in a relationship, like with a friend or family member. How did that turn out?
2. The Bible says in Ephesians 5:21 to 'submit to one another out of respect for Christ.' What do you think this means for how we treat each other?
3. How can we put others' needs first in our everyday relationships?
4. What is one thing you can do to care more about the needs of people you know, like Jesus did?

CHALLENGE:
- **Singles:** Identify one relationship in your life—whether with a friend, family member, or colleague—where you can intentionally practice putting their needs above your own this week. Reflect on how this act of selflessness impacts your relationship and your own perspective.
- **Married Couples:** With your spouse, agree to a "submission competition" for one week. Each day, find a new way to serve or prioritize your spouse's needs without expecting anything in return. At the end of the week, discuss how this exercise affected your relationship and what you learned about each other.

TAKE HOME QUESTIONS:

Table Talk (a question to ask your family or friends over a meal): When have you experienced someone putting your needs above their own? How did that impact your relationship?

Water Cooler (a question to ask at work): Have you ever been in a situation where you put someone else's needs above your own? What happened as a result?

PRAYER:

Dear Lord,

I seek Your guidance to love and serve others selflessly, just as Christ did. Help me put others' needs above my own, fostering unity and understanding in my relationships. Strengthen me to overcome selfishness and be instruments of Your peace and love.

In Jesus' name, Amen.

Study:
- For Marriages: [7 Days from me to We](#)