Sunday, July 20 2025 8:30 a.m. & 10:45 a.m.

CLASSES FOR ALL AGES:

Sermon Series · Sermon

"Marriage/Family"

PRESENTED BY PASTOR DAVID RAWLEY

@Otterbein United Brethren Church

146 LEITERSBURG ST. | GREENCASTLE, PA 17225-1346



<u>CULTURE</u> Traditional marriage has fallen out of favor. Our culture views marriage as <u>acceptable</u> but not <u>mandated</u> in order to live lives as a couple and/or have children together.

Genesis 2:24 NIV For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and they will become one flesh.

<u>CREATION</u> God the Creator does <u>not</u> concur with this cultural shift or its altered definition of marriage. His <u>plan</u> (explained in the Bible looks like this:

• marriage (public commitment) **proceeds** from the attraction of male/female to one another (Gen. 2:24).

• marriage <u>precedes</u> the sexual union that produces children (Gen. 2:24, 1 Cor. 7:2-4, 9).

• marriage <u>concedes</u> all competing loyalties to the exclusive, permanent partnership (1 Cor. 7:10-14, 39; Mt. 19:3-9; Ex. 20:14)

COMBINATIONS Actual human living produces all sorts of variations from God's ideal. Death. Divorce. Remarriage. Step siblings together. Full siblings split. Etc. FAMILY is a **challenging** dynamic, but it cannot be avoided because children MUST HAVE protection, direction, connection, correction, and affection. (Prov. 22:6, Mt. 18:5-6, 1 Tim. 5:8). How can we make it work? 1. Realize that no situation is impossible. With **prayer** and **care** any family can be an instrument of stability and support for parents and children (1 Tim. 3:4-5, Prov. 11:19).

2. Parents must **PARENT** (Eph. 6:4).

3. Communication must be <u>considerate</u> (*Prov. 15:1, 18:2, 13; 29:11, Col. 4:6, Jm. 1:19*)

4. Forgiveness must be <u>deliberate</u>. (Mt. 5:23-24, Col. 3:13-14).