# Heaven on Earth: Me to We

November 14th & 15th

**Speaker:** Dr. Mark Batterson **Scripture:** Ephesians 5:21-26

#### **Series Overview**

Our identity, our authority is anchored in a dimension of reality called heaven. It is the domain of God's dominion — perfect harmony, true identity, full authority. Every blessing is ours in the heavenly realm (Ephesians 1:3). Heaven is invading earth right here, right now. How? With a supernatural demonstration of God's love and power and wisdom. As citizens of heaven, we represent the heavenly realm. The goal? On earth, as it is in heaven.

### **Series Discussion Questions**

How did you witness heaven invading earth this week?

### **Message Overview**

There are 59 one another statements in the New Testament. Two of the most significant are found in Ephesians 5—SUBMIT to one another and SING to one another. When practiced in two-part harmony, marriage turns into a melody. Marriage is an ICON—an earthly representation of this eternal reality called the Trinity. You have to make sure the ICON doesn't become an IDOL. That puts an impossible burden to bear on your spouse because you're asking them to do for you what ONLY CHRIST CAN. But with Christ at the center, marriage mirrors the diversity and unity of the Trinity.

## **Message-Specific Discussion Questions**

Read Ephesians 5:21. Paul calls us all to submit to one another out of reverence for Christ. What does submission look like within your relationships?

As you read Paul's message to husbands and wives in Ephesians 5, how have you heard this passage interpreted in Ephesians 5? In what ways has your interpretation evolved or deepened through your spiritual journey?

Pastor Mark talks about the theology of Blessings. What are some ways that you could bless other people this week?

In a marriage, what does identity and sufficiency in Christ look like?

Pastor Mark said that "We need the moral courage to live according to Biblical convictions, and have unconditional compassion to those who don't agree with those convictions." Share a few of your convictions. **How are you upholding the standard that God has called you to?** 

In what ways have submission within relationships helped grow you closer to Christ?

## **Practical Application**

- □ Take some time to evaluate your current and former relationships. Write out a few names. Set a reminder to pray for who God puts on your heart every day this week.
- □ Find a daily rhythm of connecting with God and with one another by committing to <u>NCC Daily</u>, a new five-minute audio podcast to help you walk verse-by-verse through the book of Ephesians. Invite a few others to do so with you, connecting throughout the week via Marco Polo or a group text, or meeting together online in person to discuss and debrief what you're learning.
- □ Climb the stairs to the <u>Upper Zoom</u> each Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday at 7:14am. Join us as we start our days in His presence together, listening intently, and responding in prayer. Register at <u>ncc.re/UpperZoom</u>.