



We Value Marriage!

Gen 2:7-9, 15-25 1 Cor 6:9-11, 13b-20 Matt 5:27-30

February 18, 2018

Pastor Dave Bolte

For some of you, these words will sound very familiar:

I take you to be my [very own], to have and to hold from this day forward, for better, for worse; for richer, for poorer; in sickness and in health; to love and to cherish; until death do us part; and I pledge to you my faithfulness.

The Wedding Vows in the Lutheran marriage service, LSB, [Pastoral Care Companion](#), p.69 slightly adapted

As Christians, we **Value Marriage!**

Marriage was created by God in the Garden of Eden before sin entered the world. Marriage is one biological man and one biological woman in a lifelong, loving, and committed relationship.

The Sixth Commandment teaches us to **Value Marriage!**

The Sixth Commandment

You shall not commit adultery.

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?

We should fear and love God so that we lead a sexually pure and decent life in what we say and do, and husband and wife love and honor each other.

The Sixth Commandment teaches us to **Value Marriage!**

But we live in a world where **Godly Marriage** is no longer important, nor is it valued. The world around us values the freedom of *Pornia*.

Pornia is the New Testament word that is translated as *sexual immorality*, *fornication*, and *sometimes adultery*. *Pornia* is the basis of the English word **PORNOGRAPHY**. *Pornia* captures everything that the Sixth Commandment warns us about. The Sixth Commandment forbids *Pornia*.

Pornia is a huge temptation for us in our culture. *Pornia* is no longer lurking in the shadows, or hiding in the darkness or active in the night. *Pornia* is now paraded down main street with flags and banners and celebrity endorsements. Gender confusion and sexual immorality have merged together to become a powerful force for *Pornia* in the world.

The latest is this:  according to one website.

We live in a world where **Godly Marriage** is no longer important, nor is it valued. The world around us values the freedom of *Pornia*. It is no wonder that God made “**Marriage**” one of the values of His Commandments.

The Sixth Commandment condemns *Pornia*; it is taught to us in many ways in Scripture – here is an example:

Do you not know that the wicked **will not inherit the kingdom of God**? Do not be deceived: neither the sexually immoral, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor male prostitutes, nor homosexual offenders, nor thieves, nor the greedy, nor drunkards, nor slanderers, nor swindlers will **inherit the kingdom of God**. 1 CORINTHIANS 6:9-11

Of the 10 vices listed, ½ of them are words associated with *Pornia*. God’s Word is clear--***if you are involved in *Pornia*, and you remain unrepentant, you will not inherit the Kingdom of God. Don’t forfeit your eternal salvation for *Pornia*!***

***Pornia* IS A FAITH DESTROYING SIN.**

Pornia is powerful, it is addictive, and it destroys and corrupts God’s good gift of sexuality. If you get tangled up in *Pornia*, you will trip and you will fall into all kinds of sexual sins. *Pornia* includes **ALL** sexual sins: **Lust, Adultery, Pornography, Sexual Immorality, Homosexuality, Living**

¹ <https://www.spectator.co.uk/2016/11/why-be-lgbt-when-you-can-be-lgbtqcapgngfnba>

Together before you're married, Casual Sex, "Friends with Benefits" --- not to mention the *whole slough of sexual crimes!*

Pornia will tangle you up and turn your life upside down; it will tarnish your character, **break-up your marriage**, **shatter your family**, **threaten your career**, and **separate you from God**.

Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows. The one who sows to please his sinful nature, from that nature will reap destruction; GALATIANS 6:7-8

Don't forfeit your eternal salvation for *Pornia*! Today, if you are tangled up in *Pornia*; then **REPENT!** and let God untangle you. That happens as you **confess** your sins and **trust** in Christ to forgive you.

God has intervened in your life with the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ. You have heard of His death on the cross for you; He was buried with your sins; and He rose from the dead on the third day. In His death and resurrection, you are set free from sin – you are even set free from the sins of *Pornia*.

The believer must guard against toughening himself against the sinful world to the point that he loses his sense of shock and grief over sin. For example, even if everyone else in this world should commit or condone fornication, adultery, and homosexuality, the child of God will never take these awful commonplaces in stride; he will still call them what they are: sinful perversions of God's good gift of sexuality. *Ecclesiastes*, Bollhagen, p.167

You now belong to God and live in His Kingdom. Christ has set you free from *Pornia*.

The Sixth Commandment teaches you to **VALUE MARRIAGE!**

Through faith in Christ, *"You were washed in Holy Baptism by God the Father, you are sanctified by the Holy Spirit, and you are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ."* 1 CORINTHIANS 6:11 PARAPHRASE

Pornia is not your master! You are not a slave to it: **YOU BELONG TO GOD**. It is crucial that your life reflects that. That means immoral relationships have to be decisively broken; hearts have to be untangled; people will be upset; tears will flow; there may be a great deal of anger, scorn, and

hatred; there may be consequences. It doesn't matter: you must live a holy life! Do whatever you have to: break off the illicit relationship; change your lifestyle; monitor your habits. The Bible says to FLEE *Pornia* – *run for your life!*

You now belong to God and live in His Kingdom. Christ has set you free from *Pornia*.

The Sixth Commandment teaches you to **VALUE MARRIAGE!**

You were washed in Holy Baptism by God the Father, you are sanctified by the Holy Spirit, and you are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ. 1 COR

6:11 PARAPHRASE

Here is how marriage is described in the Lutheran wedding ceremony:

Marriage is an honorable estate instituted by God in Paradise, before humanity's fall into sin. In marriage we see a picture of the communion between Christ and His Bride, the Church. Our Lord blessed and honored marriage with His presence and first miracle at Cana in Galilee. This estate is also commended to us by the apostle Paul as good and honorable. Therefore, marriage is not to be entered into inadvisably or lightly, but reverently, deliberately, and in accordance with the purposes for which it was instituted by God.

The union of husband and wife in heart, mind, and body is intended by God for the mutual companionship, help and support that each person ought to receive from the other, both in prosperity and adversity. Marriage is also ordained that man and woman may find delight in one another. Therefore, all persons who shall marry shall take a spouse in holiness and honor, not in the passion of lust, for God has not called us to impurity but in holiness. God also established marriage for the procreation of children who are to be brought up in the fear and instruction of the Lord so that they may offer Him their praise. Opening words to the Lutheran marriage service, LSB, Pastoral Care Companion, p.64

The sixth Commandment teaches us to **VALUE MARRIAGE**
and to flee *Pornia* and

Because you were washed in Holy Baptism by God the Father,
because you are sanctified by the Holy Spirit, and
because you are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ,
you can lead a sexually pure and decent life in what you say and do,
and husband and wife can love and honor each other. AMEN!