

BIBLIOGRAPHY:

D.A. Carson, *The Expositor's Bible Commentary: Matthew*, 2010.

Daniel M. Doriani, *Reformed Expository Commentary: Matthew*, 2008.

D. Martyn Lloyd Jones, *Studies in the Sermon on the Mount*, 1959-60

Tim Keller, *Logos Sermon Archive*.

John Legg, *The King and His Kingdom*, 2004.

Grant R. Osborne, *Zondervan Exegetical Commentary on the New Testament: Matthew*, 2010.



“That God is jealous for our love is the greatest compliment he could possibly pay us.”

~Abraham Kuyper

- 1) Read Matthew 9:14-17. What is in this passage that surprises, encourages or frustrates you?
- 2) What is comforting about the metaphor of Jesus being your Bridegroom? What’s restricting about it? What’s new? Reflect together on the Kuyper quote above.
- 3) Where are you struggling to experience the wedding joy of Jesus’ presence in your life? When do you often forget His delight in being your beloved? How is this both a present reality and our hope? What does Jesus think about at a feast? How can we imitate him in this?
- 4) For more discussion, read and talk about the following passages: Isaiah 54:5-8; Hosea 2:16-23. How are these promises true now in Jesus? How are they still future?
- 5) Reflect on this quote from the sermon:

Who then can value highly enough these royal nuptials? Who can comprehend the riches of the glory of this grace? **Christ, that rich and pious husband, takes as a wife a needy and impious harlot, redeeming her from all her evils, and supplying her with all His good things.** It is impossible now that her sins should destroy her, since they have been laid upon Christ and swallowed up in Him, and since she has in her husband Christ a righteousness which she may claim as her own, and which she can set up with confidence against all her sins, against death and hell, saying: **“If I have sinned, my Christ, in whom I believe, has not sinned; all mine is His, and all His is mine;”** as it is written, **“My beloved is mine, and I am his.** (Songs 2:16) This is what Paul says: “Thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ;” victory over sin and death, as he says: “The sting of death is sin, and the strength of sin is the law.”

~Martin Luther

- 6) Take time to pray that God’s mercy would soften our hearts and make us joyfully obedient and joyful witnesses of the gospel.