

GETTING MARRIED WAS ONE of the most humbling things I have ever done. Hosting a wedding on a micro-level budget, friends and family who traveled long distances to celebrate with us, a sunny fall wedding day at the Bible camp where we first met—all bring up feelings of joy as we recall our vows, making a covenant with God and each other—we both agree it was by far the best day of our lives.

But as we reminisce, it's as if God speaks to us: "My beloved, just wait for heaven. If you thought September 8 was the best day of your life, you are going to be utterly blown away when you walk down the aisle to be my bride . . . You will forever be surrounded by my presence, with those you love in a setting you can't even imagine . . . You don't have to plan the wedding. You just show up as you are. You will be my bride and your husband will be with you. He will be rejoicing and celebrating right next to you again, but this time as a brother. September 8, 2018 was just a glimpse of what the rest of eternity is going to be like."

"Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready" (Revelation 19:7).

We spend so many hours preparing for our wedding day here on earth, but how much more time and energy should we spend preparing for the day when we get to be fully united with our Father. I must strive for love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness and temperance in obedience to His Word (Galatians 5:22–23) so when I at last unite with Him in heaven, I will hear His words, "Well done, good and faithful servant" (Matthew 25:23).

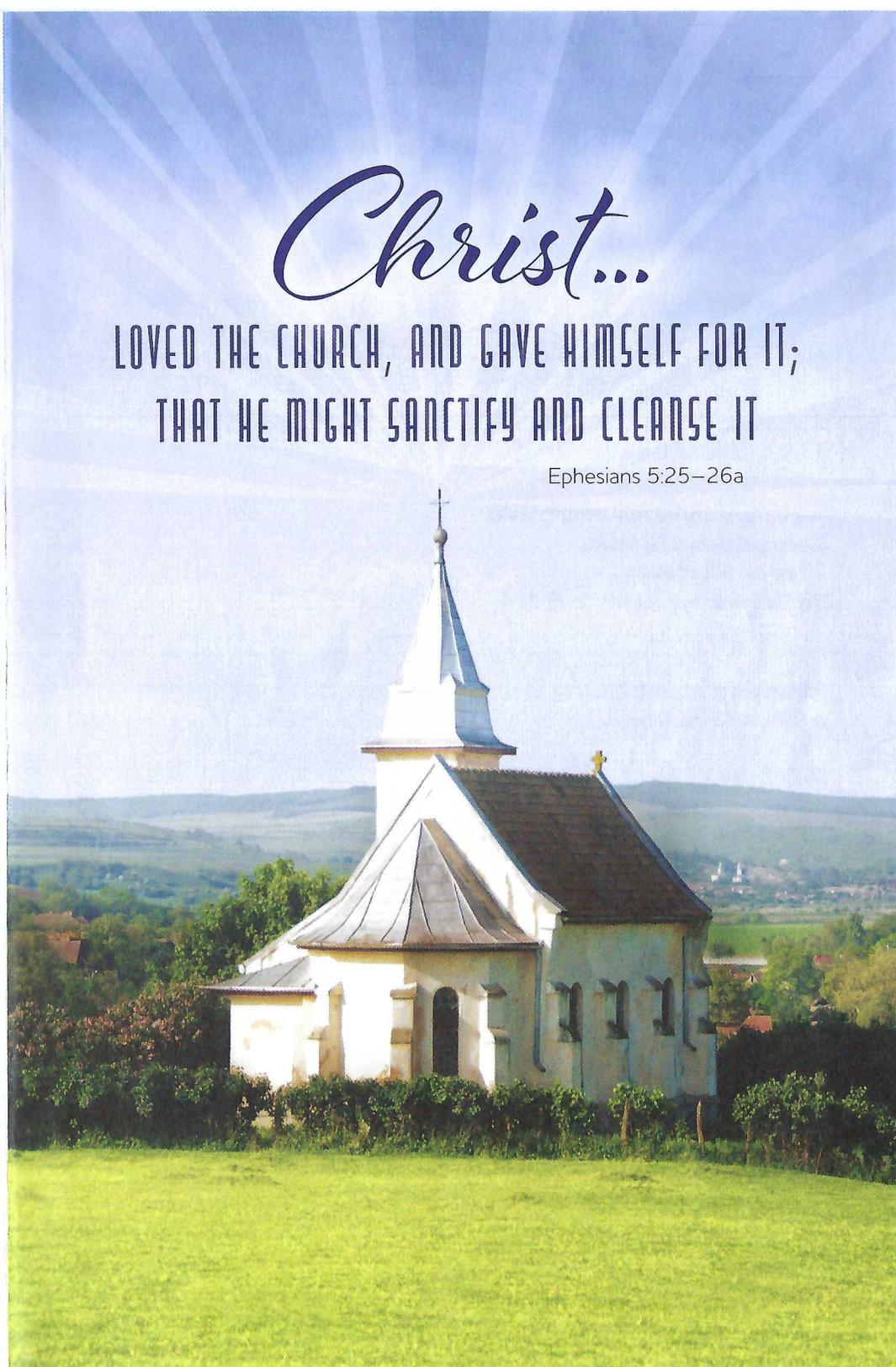
*Paraphrase of young millennial
Teirrah Wennerberg's blog*

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Christ...

LOVED THE CHURCH, AND GAVE HIMSELF FOR IT;
THAT HE MIGHT SANCTIFY AND CLEANSE IT

Ephesians 5:25–26a



Covenant Church

3115 N.W. 16th Avenue Gainesville FL 32605

April 11, 2021,

Call to Worship

Sounds of Hope Part 2

Invocation

Ron Marks

Sing Unto the Lord

505 Love Lifted Me

Tina Pinkoson

Welcome and Announcements

Recognition of Guests

Mission Moment

Birthdays and Anniversaries

Ron Marks

Worship in Song

505 He Touched me

Tina Pinkoson

Offertory Prayer

Joe Morgan

Offertory

Rose Morgan

Special Music

Sounds of Hope Part 2

Pastoral Prayer

Ron Marks

Scripture

Mark 5:22-36

Sermon

"You Are Not Alone"

Rev. Don Mauldin

Hymn of Benediction

#633 Open Our Eyes, Lord

Tina Pinkoson

Please stay for a short reception celebrating Covenant's 34th anniversary today!

Scripture for Today

Mark 5:22-36

²²Then one of the synagogue leaders, named Jairus, came, and when he saw Jesus, he fell at his feet. ²³He pleaded earnestly with him, "My little daughter is dying. Please come and put your hands on her so that she will be healed and live." ²⁴So Jesus went with him.

A large crowd followed and pressed around him. ²⁵And a woman was there who had been subject to bleeding for twelve years. ²⁶She had suffered a great deal under the care of many doctors and had spent all she had, yet instead of getting better she grew worse. ²⁷When she heard about Jesus, she came up behind him in the crowd and touched his cloak, ²⁸because she thought, "If I just touch his clothes, I will be healed." ²⁹Immediately her bleeding stopped and she felt in her body that she was freed from her suffering. ³⁰At once Jesus realized that power had gone out from him. He turned around in the crowd and asked, "Who touched my clothes?" ³¹"You see the people crowding against you," his disciples answered, "and yet you can ask, 'Who touched me?'" ³²But Jesus kept looking around to see who had done it. ³³Then the woman, knowing what had happened to her, came and fell at his feet and, trembling with fear, told him the whole truth. ³⁴He said to her, "Daughter, your faith has healed you. Go in peace and be freed from your suffering."

³⁵While Jesus was still speaking, some people came from the house of Jairus, the synagogue leader. "Your daughter is dead," they said. "Why bother the teacher anymore?"

³⁶Overhearing^[a] what they said, Jesus told him, "Don't be afraid; just believe."