

Pekin First Nazarene November 15, 2026

Pastor Lauren Smith, *PFN Lead Pastor*

♥ ___Joy___ is found in loving **J**esus, **O**thers, and then **Y**ourself.

Romans 12:10 (NLT)

"Love each other with genuine affection, and take delight in honoring each other."

Matthew 22:37-39 (NLT)

37 *"Jesus replied, "'You must love the LORD your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind.' 38 This is the first and greatest commandment. 39 A second is equally important: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'"*

John 13: 34-35 (NLT)

34 *"So now I am giving you a new commandment: Love each other. Just as I have loved you, you should love each other. 35 Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are My disciples."*

1 Corinthians 13: 4-7 (NLT)

4 *"Love is patient and kind. Love is not jealous or boastful or proud 5 or rude. It does not demand its own way. It is not irritable, and it keeps no record of being wronged. 6 It does not rejoice about injustice but rejoices whenever the truth wins out. 7 Love never gives up, never loses faith, is always hopeful, and endures through every circumstance."*

♥ "___1st___ ___Corinthians___ ___Love___" shows us what God's love is like. It is also a challenge to love ourselves and others in that way.

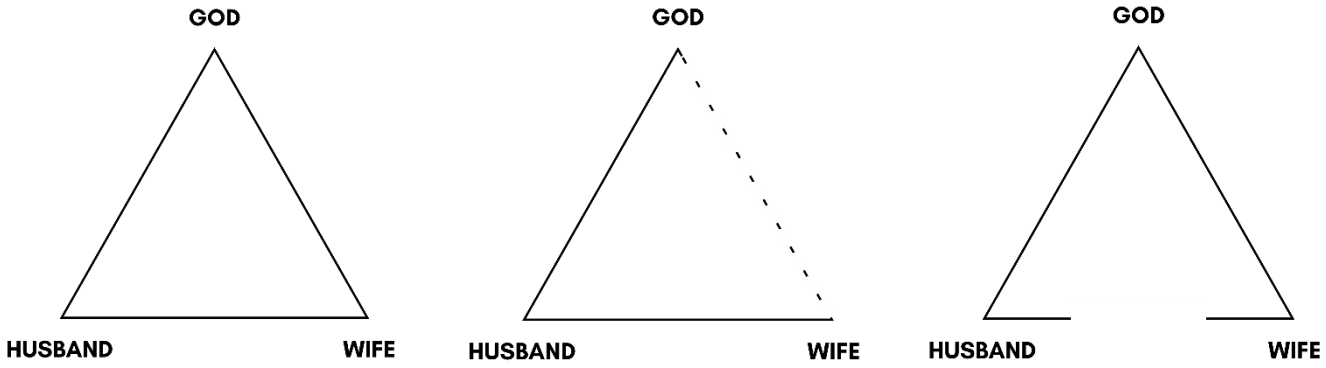
♥ Singleness should be _____recognized_____ & _____honored_____ rather than seen as a curse or failure. **(1 Corinthians 7)**

♥ You have to know and love _____yourself_____ to be able to know and love another person in the way God designed.

♥ Not everyone will get married, but _____nobody_____ is left out from the invitation to be in a relationship with Jesus.

THE CHRISTIAN MARRIAGE TRIANGLE

(Concept from Michael Todd)



1 Corinthians 7:12-16 (NLT)

12 *"Now, I will speak to the rest of you, though I do not have a direct command from the Lord. If a fellow believer has a wife who is not a believer and she is willing to continue living with him, he must not leave her.* 13 *And if a believing woman has a husband who is not a believer and he is willing to continue living with her, she must not leave him.* 14 *For the believing wife brings holiness to her marriage, and the believing husband brings holiness to his marriage. Otherwise, your children would not be holy, but now they are holy.* 15 *(But if the husband or wife who isn't a believer insists on leaving, let them go. In such cases the believing husband or wife is no longer bound to the other, for God has called you to live in peace.)* 16 *Don't you wives realize that your husbands might be saved because of you? And don't you husbands realize that your wives might be saved because of you?"*

SUPPORTING SCRIPTURES

Ephesians 5, Proverbs 4:23, John 3:16, & 1 Thessalonians 3:12