

A person wearing a plaid shirt is seen from behind, with their arms raised in a gesture of praise or worship. The background is a church interior with warm, orange-toned lighting and several bright spotlights visible at the top. The overall atmosphere is one of spiritual devotion and community.

# The Good & Beautiful Church

# **Pictures of the Church**

\*Family

\*Temple

\*Flock of sheep

# **Big Idea**

**The closer we get to Jesus...**

**the closer we get to each other!**

# **I. THE GOOD AND BEAUTIFUL BRIDE OF CHRIST**



# **Ephesians 5:22-33**

25 Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her, 26 that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, 27 so that he might present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish.[a]

# **Ephesians 5:22-33**

28 In the same way husbands should love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself.

29 For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ does the church, 30 because we are members of his body.

31 “Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.”

32 This mystery is profound, and I am saying that it refers to ***Christ and the church***.

33 However, let each one of you love his wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects her husband.

# **A. What Christ Has Done and is Doing:**

\*Head of the church. v. 23

\*Sacrificially loves His church. v. 25

\*Sanctifies/purifies His church. V. 26

\*Nourishes, cherishes, enjoys His church. v. 29



## **B. OUR RESPONSE:**

\*Live in submission to Christ. v. v. 24

\*Allow the water of the word to wash over you regularly. v. 26

\*Fall more in love with Jesus daily.

\*Love His bride.

# **II. THE GOOD AND BEAUTIFUL BODY OF CHRIST**

# I Corinthians 12

4 Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; 5 and there are varieties of service, but the same Lord; 6 and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who empowers them all in everyone. 7 To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.

# I Corinthians 12

18 But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as He chose.

24b...But God has so composed the body, giving greater honor to the part that lacked it,  
25 that there may be no division in the body, but that the members may have the same care for one another.

## **A. WHAT CHRIST HAS DONE AND IS DOING:**

- \*Gives gifts and empowers you. Vv. 4-6
- \*Gifts are for the common good/health. v. 7
- \*He puts you in a body as He chooses. V. 18
- \*God has honored everyone, so there would be no division. Vv. 24-25



## **B. OUR RESPONSE:**

\*Discover your gifts. Vv. 4-11

\*You need to be a part of a church and we need each other. v. 21

\*Care for each other. v. 25b

\*Love each other sacrificially and supernaturally.  
V. 31-ch. 13

# **APPLICATION/*DOERS OF THE WORD*:**

- \*What is your plan to get closer to Jesus?
- \*What is your plan to get closer in relationships?
- \*What is your next step with Jesus?
- \*Spend time this week giving thanks to Jesus for what He is doing and for His church.

## **B. OUR RESPONSE:**

\*Discover your gifts. Vv. 4-11

\*You need to be a part of a church and we need each other. v. 21, 27

\*Care for each other. v. 25b

\*Love each other sacrificially and supernaturally.

V. 31-ch. 13

# **APPLICATION: DOERS OF THE WORD**

\*What is your plan to get closer to Jesus?

\*What is your plan to get closer in relationships?

\*Pray that we will all far more in love with Jesus and His church.

\*Pray that we would be a healthy, life-giving church.