

**Sermon Series: Loving the Church**

Pastor Rick Garmon

September 25, 2011

**CHANGING THE WAY WE THINK**

**Ephesians 5:25-27**

*Christ loved the church and gave Himself up for her to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the Word and to present her to Himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless.*

**God chose the symbol of the Bride to represent the church.**

- Old Testament, God refers to the people of Israel as His \_\_\_\_\_ (Hos. 2:19-20).
- New Testament, Paul likens the nature of the church to the \_\_\_\_\_ of a husband and wife (Ephesians 5:32).
- In the final book of the Bible, John describes the greatest \_\_\_\_\_ of all time taking place at the Marriage Supper of the Lamb (Revelation 19:6-9).
- The \_\_\_\_\_ is the Bride of Christ and will belong to Him for all eternity (Ephesians 5:30-31).

**Paul's dramatic change of attitude toward the church (Acts 8:1-5)**

- A \_\_\_\_\_ moment with God will change how you think about the church.
- Any \_\_\_\_\_ I do to the church, in God's eyes, I do to Jesus.

**How I think about the church is vital to spiritual health and multiplication.**

- We must \_\_\_\_\_ to think the way Jesus thinks (1 Corinthians 2:16).

Sow a thought, reap an act.

Sow an act, reap a habit.

Sow a habit, reap a character.

Sow a character, reap a destiny.

- Agenda \_\_\_\_\_ with Jesus is the key to falling in love with the Church.

***“Loving the Church”***  
Preaching Series Schedule

September 18 God Is at Work!  
September 25 Changing the Way We Think  
October 2           What We Think About the Church  
October 9           I Love to Be Corrected by the Word of God  
October 16          What the Church Is ... and Can Be  
October 23          A Case for Connection  
October 30          A Worldwide Vision and Commitment

For further study and discussion from today’s message, sign up to join a small group. The sign up sheets are on the bulletin board on the south wall of the foyer where it says Small Groups.