



## Essential Evangelization

### A Marriage Made in Heaven

In today's Gospel reading we hear how the Sadducees, the religious leaders of the day who did not believe in the resurrection, again tried to trip up Jesus with a hypothetical situation about marriage. The story involves a widow and the subsequent and consequential marriage to her by seven brothers of the original husband, all dying childless. The question they pose is, "Now at the resurrection, whose wife will that woman be?" Jesus takes this "teachable moment" as an opportunity to give us a lesson on right priorities and even gives us a glimpse of heaven.

Marriage is a sacrament, instituted by Christ for this age and time. God created man and woman in His image and likeness to bind themselves together in the matrimonial covenant partnership for life. Husband and wife are partners and helpmates to love one another, to procreate, contribute to society and to educate their children in the faith. In God's plan, marriage is a beautiful and intimate taste and foreshadowing of the ultimate love that God has for us. Marriage of this age however, gives way to a much greater existence in the everlasting and in "the wedding feast of the Lamb," where God's love and love for God will reign supreme.

In today's modern media, television and movies, love between a man and woman is romanticized to the height of THE ultimate love. Marriage love with the absence of love of God however is inordinate in His plan. Marriage, with all of its very wonderful gifts, is not paramount to the love and relationship with Christ that we can have in this life. The number one commandment is to "Love God, with all your heart mind and soul." He is the Love that never ends. Do you love Jesus as the Lord and Savior of your life?

*"The children of this age marry and remarry; but those who are deemed worthy to attain to the coming age and to the resurrection of the dead neither marry or are given in marriage. They can no longer die, for they are like angels; and they are children of God because they are the ones who will rise."*  
Luke 20: 34-36

This is one of a series of articles  
on Evangelization from the  
Evangelization Committee