

First Friends Church
iMarriage
2-22-09

**We are the chosen, loved, purchased, holy, and radiant
Bride of Christ. The Church secure and significant!**

Ephesians 5:25-33

Modern day parable: The Jewish Wedding

The Jewish traditions around betrothal and wedding give us a better understanding of the metaphor of marriage used throughout the Bible to describe Christ's relationship with the Church, his Bride. The betrothal was a legally binding arrangement, broken only by divorce papers.

- Father's selection of the bride - Ephes. 1:4
- Marriage covenant arranged - Ps. 105:8-10
- Bridal payment to bride and her family - 1 Cor. 6:19-20; 1 Peter 1:18-19
- Ceremonial cleansing - 1 Cor. 6:11
- Betrothal ceremony – stating vows, exchanging of rings, sharing a cup of wine.
 - New Covenant cup - Luke 22:20; 1 Cor. 11:25
- Bridal gift from groom - Ephes. 1:13-14
- Period of preparation and separation for approx. one year - Jn. 14:1-3
- Surprise announcement of wedding and feasting – 1 Thes. 4:13-18

Vows: Will you receive Christ's sacrificial death for your sin? Will you receive His gift of the Holy Spirit? Will you share in the cup of his suffering? Will you pledge your life in faithfulness and purity to Christ alone, in anticipation of an eternity together forever? ***I will!***