



Sunday, March 11, 2012

Pastor Joseph Ardayfio

IF YOU WOULD LIKE AN AUDIO COPY OF THE
MESSAGE OR WOULD LIKE TO DISCUSS THE
MESSAGE FURTHER, PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE
OR CONTACT US AT
MEDIA@MARSHILLFELLOWSHIP.COM

WE ARE... the church |

WE ARE WATERED BY THE WORD OF GOD

SCRIPTURE: EPHESIANS 5:22-32; PSALMS 138:2B

key theme: In order to **BE the church**, we must continually understand how Christ feeds and cares for his bride, the church, by using the Word of God (His Holy Scriptures) to nourish us and to wash us from the stain of sin.

- 1) We must understand that God desires for his people to be united as the "church" and to be married to Christ rather than dating Christ without a lasting commitment.
- 2) *Marriage includes a responsibility to love and submit, to give of oneself, and to nurture the relationship.*
- 3) **To Love and Submit.**
 - a. In order for true submission to take place, one must recognize the position and authority that another possesses and make an active decision to change oneself on the basis of respect for that position and authority.
 - b. Christ's position and authority gives Him the name that is above all names and His Word is exalted above all things. [Colossians 1, Philippians 2:5-11, Psalms 138:2b]
- 4) **To Give of Oneself**
 - a. You cannot have a marriage without a commitment to forsake other people, places and things that try to compete with your true spouse.
- 5) **To Nurture the Relationship**

God's way of nourishment is multi-faceted:

 - a. He personally feeds and cares for us through his Word. (God initiates)
 - b. He teaches each of us how to feed and care for ourselves according to his Word. (God empowers us)
 - c. He uses the members of his body to feed and care for one another on the basis of his Word. (God collectively uses us)
 - d. He uses the church (his people) to feed and care for a dying world. (God shines through us)

Mars Hill Fellowship Church is a diverse gathering of believers in the Metro Boston area. We come from a variety of cultures, ages, educational backgrounds, and family histories, but we share the common testimony of being transformed by God's everlasting love. We are living witnesses that the gospel is real and has the power to redeem all people. We strive to love God with all of our heart, soul, mind and strength and to love our neighbors as ourselves.

Joseph + Ophelia Ardayfio | Lead Pastors
Mailing Address | 1085 Commonwealth Ave, Suite #380, Boston, Massachusetts 02215
Main Office | 617.459.4001 Email | info@marshillfellowship.info Web | www.marshillfellowship.com
Twitter | [@pastorjoseph](https://twitter.com/pastorjoseph) / [@marshillboston](https://twitter.com/marshillboston) / [@marshillyp](https://twitter.com/marshillyp)