

Marble Cake

Scripture:

Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh. (Genesis 2:24)

Materials List:

- (1) Marble Cake Mix
- (1) Pan
- (1) Butter knife

Song: *A Common Love*

Main Message:

Though God made man and woman as separate individuals, their marriage is holy and makes them ONE.

Lesson:

There is a debate that appears to be as old as time (not really, but it seems that way). It is an extremely important debate, too. Are you ready to for this? It deals with this question: Chocolate or vanilla? As you know, this is very serious stuff. If you are a woman, the answer is almost inevitably (though not always the case): chocolate. The love, or obsession, women have for chocolate often will pop up in jokes, in casual conversation, on television, and even on social media sites such as Facebook. However, I suppose I completely break from the norm because I am a vanilla fan. My love for vanilla far surpasses my feelings for chocolate. When I'm brave enough to admit this, I usually get stares as if I've gone mad. Whether your taste buds lean toward chocolate or vanilla, one thing is for certain; they both have a very unique, and distinctive flavor.

For those who desire to savor the best of both worlds, there is a creation called the marble cake. I've only made one marble cake in my lifetime, but I clearly remember that the detailed instructions said to mix the chocolate batter separate from the vanilla batter and then carefully work the flavors together. The interesting thing about this particular creation is that upon inspection of the result, you clearly have two different flavors, however it is now ONE cake.

This is reminiscent of something very special we learn through scripture that God himself invented and established. We call it "marriage". In the Bible we read that He created the first human beings, Adam and Eve, male and female (Genesis 1:27). Both made in the image of God, males and females are very different from one another. Our Father, and Master of the universe, had a plan in mind. These separate people, though not the same, were to be joined in marriage and become ONE (Genesis 2:24). When you are part of a marriage, you are still your own person with your own individual thoughts, personalities, and quirks. But you are also now one of two separate people who united as one...one family. The decisions you now make, the words you say, and the actions you take now reflect not only on yourself, but also on your spouse. You are no longer acting alone. There is another individual who bears the burden of your mistakes, shares the joys of your successes, and most importantly, should be encouraging you and walking side by side with you on your path to heaven.

There are plenty of food blog websites on the internet where you'll read of the love bakers have for their marble cake creations. They are proud of the design, the work, and the outcome. The Lord is also proud of His creation, for we read that when He saw what He had created, He said it was GOOD (Genesis 1:31). The designer of the marble cake, who had worked hard to fashion the two flavors together into one masterpiece, would be devastated if someone came along, ripped their cake apart, and threw it away. In the same way, the Lord hates it when His institution of two people joined in one marriage is ripped apart and thrown away (Malachi 2:16). We need to remember, and remind others, that even when things are tough, the Designer crafted this creation and it is a masterpiece!

Prayer: Pray that we can be people of God's Word, who appreciate the differences between men and women, but understand the importance of the oneness of marriage.