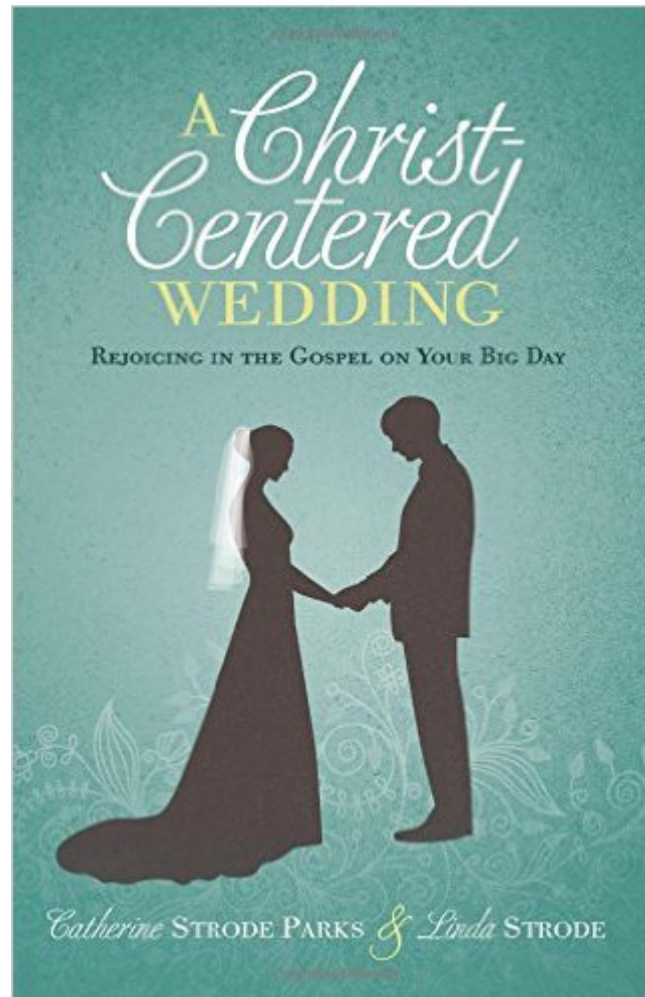


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# A Christ-Centered Wedding: Rejoicing In The Gospel On Your Big Day



## Synopsis

Wedding planning has spawned a major industry. The average cost of the occasion now exceeds \$25,000, and societal pressure to create the "perfect day" is so strong that even Christian couples forget what God originally intended for the sacred marriage ceremony. While paying attention to the good fun that follows that special proposal (the dress, the flowers, the cake, the gatherings, etc.), *A Christ-Centered Wedding* first serves as a guide to believers who want their wedding to portray the relationship of Christ with the church and to reflect the gospel to all in attendance. From the start, this thoughtful book looks to the Creator of weddings for guidance in planning by emphasizing the sacrificial love of the Savior more than the modern world's idealistic view of romantic love. There are chapters filled with practical information about everything from pre-marital counseling and choosing a wedding location to other resources like a planning checklist and timeline, music suggestions, guidance on potential issues of conflict, a listing of traditional financial responsibilities, sample vows, and other great ideas from couples who have successfully put together a Christ-centered wedding.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I guess we've all been to good weddings and not-so-good weddings. We've been to gloriously God-honoring weddings and embarrassingly God-dishonoring weddings. The best weddings, at least in my assessment, are the ones where the couple is willing to step out of the spotlight to ensure that attention is focused squarely on God. The best weddings are the ones where the couple makes much of God, where he is at the very center of it all. Weddings are big

business today. As comedian Jim Gaffigan says, "Weddings are an important event where we spend a lot of money so the bride can pretend to be a princess and marry her prince and live happily ever after." He isn't far from the truth. The bride is taught that this is her day, her day to shine, the day to fulfill her dreams and fantasies. And in too many cases, even among Christians, Christ is shoved to the margins. Into the fray step Catherine Strode Parks and Linda Strode with their new book *A Christ-Centered Wedding*. They write, "Marriage is one of God's good gifts. It is a blessing to all of creation, and it's a beautiful picture of Christ's relationship with the church. Before you can experience the joy of this gift, though, you need to get through the wedding, and the wedding planning. This can be either an uplifting, encouraging experience or a frustrating exercise in trying to please everyone and failing. Many times it's a combination of the two." They want to make sure that the wedding and the preparation are uplifting rather than agonizing and that the ceremony is Christ-focused rather than self-focused. And so they wrote a book about rejoicing in the gospel on your big day. And it's a good book.

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