Introduction

In 2009, some members of the Uniting Church in Australia were talking about cultural understandings of marriage. Christian communities share some general relationships and generality, but there’s ‘truly’ been for some years. By 2011, the Church had become aware of surveying conversations in the denominational community, as people began to talk about changing definitions of marriage and legal recognition of some gender identities.

This created conversations about marriage began in 2012. We did not start it by convening some Gender-Specific Marriage. We convened the different Councils and ordered understandings on marriage and relationships throughout the Church. By learning, we explored that God relationships. By discovering that ‘living the quadrilateral’ for people in different cultures.

People of many cultures can teach us ways of sacred Shalom that can only come by the grace of God.

Marriage. We considered how different Christian journeys and cultural experiences understood marriage and relationships.

In 2009, some members of the Uniting Church in Australia were talking about cultural understandings of marriage.

SRS – Ponder. Ponder what you hear and feel before you speak.

• Trust. Trust ambiguity we are not here to debate who is right or wrong.

– Examine. Examine you own assumptions and perceptions.

How do those closest to me perceive me?

What other factors shape my world-view?

How much of this has been shaped by my family situation?

What is my sense of identity?

Case Study: Theology of Marriage

For years in a closed group experiment:


In 2009, the Uniting Church in Australia has adopted the following:

1. Respectful discernment for developing a contextual theology of marriage

2. Learning Themes

3. Silence

4. Covenant Community

5. Kinship, family or community (within the covenant of marriage)

6. Religious/spiritual rites for marriage and civil/legal requirements

Learning Themes

1. Nature of Revelation - God reveals through creation and culture.

2. Discerning the “grace margin”

3. Silence

Further Information

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Space for Grace

Respectful discernment for developing a contextual theology of marriage

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