

DEVELOPING A GODLY MARRIAGE

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Requires that we

- A. Begin With The Proper Foundation
- B. Build On God's Word
- C. Cultural Marriage
- D. Biblical Marriage 1 Peter 5:8 (RSV)

I. THE FOUNDATION OF GODLY MARRIAGE

Genesis 1:1 (ESV) In the beginning, God(Elohim) created the heavens and the earth.

A. ELOHIM GOD is The TRIUNE GOD, named in Matthew 28:19 as

FATHER, SON AND HOLY SPIRIT, HE IS THE I AM, THE EVER LIVING ONE.

B. WE ARE PART OF HIS CREATION Genesis 1 gives an overview of Creation

Genesis 1:2 (ESV) 2 The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.

C. GOD CREATED MAN AND WOMAN

Genesis 1:26-28 (ESV)

1. IN HIS IMAGE v.27 **So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.**

2. MALE AND FEMALE

He is the One who made us male and female. He wants us to multiply and be fruitful

3. GOD ORDAINED WORK FOR MAN Genesis 2:15 (ESV)

Work was not a curse because there was no sin. Work was a blessing of God

4. ADAM LIVED IN PARADISE WITHOUT EVIL

He could eat of any of the fruits of the garden except one. Genesis 2:17...

5. JEHOVAH ELOHIM CREATED WOMAN Genesis 2:18-25

She was taken from adam's side to be his helper not his foot to be stepped on.

6. GOD MARRIED THEM Genesis 2:22

a. God performed the Ceremony

When Jehovah Elohim brought Eve to Adam He gave her to Adam as his wife.

God was the Father of the Bride, the Minister, The Best Man and Witness to the marriage.

b. Adam knew Eve that had been taken from his body. V. 23

"...she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man."

In the vernacular he said "Wow. Where have you been all of my life"

c. Adam knew what he needed. So when he saw Eve he could say, "At last".

7. LEAVE AND CLEAVE AND BECOME ONE FLESH

8. SEX IN MARRIAGE IS NOT SIN(THEY HAD NOT SINNED)

THE FALL

9. THINGS CHANGED IN THE NEXT VERSE WHEN SATAN IN THE FORM OF A SNAKE TEMPTED EVE. **Genesis 3:1**

a. Satan Casts Doubt About God's Word, The Bible. Genesis 3:1 (ESV)

1. **Genesis 3:1 Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God actually say, 'You shall not eat of any tree in the garden'?"**

3:2 And the woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die.'"

But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not surely die.

⁵ For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."

2. DISINFORMATION

a. Satan called God a liar and imputed an evil motive to God, Jehovah Elohim, the only wise and holy God. This is what has been going on in the United States in recent years. It is called disinformation, a word you don't hear much about anymore.

b. Tell A Lie So Preposterous

c. "Is the Bible God's Word?"

10. SIN ENTERED THROUGH DESIRING PERSONAL AUTONOMY (I will do what I want not what God wants.) **Genesis 3:6-13 (ESV)**

THEY BOTH HAD A CHOICE AND THEY MADE THE WRONG CHOICE JUST AS EACH ONE OF US HAS MADE THE WRONG CHOICE. THEY ARE OUR FIRST ANCESTORS, WE ALL DESCENDED FROM THEM AND WE ALL HAVE THE BENT TOWARD SIN BECAUSE OF THEM. HOWEVER, WE ALL HAVE MADE THE CHOICE TO SIN.

11. GOD'S PLAN AND MAN'S RESPONSE

II. NEW TESTAMENT MARRIAGE

The Lord Jesus in His ministry gave the foundation for Christian Marriage by restating Genesis 2:24 in **Matthew 19:4-6 (ESV)** when they asked Him about divorce.

He answered, "Have you not read that he who created them from the beginning made them male and female and said, 'Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh'? So they are no longer two but one flesh. What therefore God has joined together, let not man separate."

A. Jesus Reiterated ...

A man is to leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife. Their relationship becomes primary and is a priority above mother and father and children.

B. Jesus Approves Sex In Marriage

C. Jesus Disapproves Adultery And Fornication

Sex with another person outside of marriage is sin in God's word. In fact even to look at another and desire sex with them is sin. **Matthew 5:28 (ESV)** But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lustfully intent has already committed adultery with her in his heart.

D. Viewing Pornography Among Christians - Barna Research

Among Christians

Christian Men: Ages 13-24, 41% use pornography with intent(looking for it)

Christian Men: Ages 25 and older, 23% use pornography with intent

Christian Women: Ages 13-24, 13% use pornography with intent

Christian Women: Ages 25 and older 5% use pornography with intent

How many is that? Assuming an even distribution, out of 92 million American Evangelical 36 million Christians are looking for porn. That is a blight on the Church.

The Lord does not want us to be living in mental fornication and adultery. The solution to that is to run from it. **Proverbs 4:14** Repent, Ask God's help, Ask other's help, Block and Avoid.

1 Corinthians 6:18 (ESV) "Flee from sexual immorality. Every other sin a person commits is outside the body, but the sexually immoral person sins against his own body."

E. Divorce Matthew 19:6 Christian vows of marriage "until death do us part". It is a scriptural life commitment that we are making. Cultural marriage has no such intent.

F. FILLING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT IS NECESSARY Ephesians 5:18 Galatians, 5:16-18
Ps.139:23,24, 1 John 1:9

Love is a fruit of the Holy Spirit. Gal.5:22

G. Christian Marriage Is God's Plan For Most People

1. God Promises To Bless Marriage Prov. 18:22
2. He Wants Us To Live Holy Lives 1 Thess. 4:3,4(RSV) For this is the will of God
3. God intends it to be a commitment that lasts until one of the partners dies. Mt. 19:6 " So they are no longer two but one. What therefore God has joined together let no man put asunder."
4. A Good Wife Is From The Lord Prov 19:21 "Houses and wealth are inherited from fathers..."
5. Marriage is a Step of Faith Romans 14:23b

H. Christian Marriage and Christian Discipleship

1. A disciple of Jesus must be born again through repentance of sin and faith in Jesus' death burial and resurrection for our sins. John 3:7 "You must be born again."
2. A disciple is a learner of Christ, open and teachable, willing to receive instruction. Matthew 11:29,30, 10:24,25
3. A disciple is one who abides in, continues in, obeys and practices Jesus Word. John 8:31 Hear the Word, read it, study it, memorize it, meditate and apply it to our lives. 4. We were both seeking committed discipleship when we met
4. A disciple loves Jesus more than his spouse or children or extended family, more than his own life and more than any possession or accomplishment. Luke 14:26,27,33
5. A disciple has love for fellow believers. John 13:34,35
6. A disciple bears much fruit, glorifies the Father and proves his discipleship. John 15:8
7. A disciple has on his heart the ministry of evangelizing of those around him so they can be saved and also to disciple those who are saved. Mark 16:15, Matthew 28:18-20

III. THE SCRIPTURAL HUSBAND WIFE RELATIONSHIP

A. ROLES IN THE GODHEAD 1 Corinthians 11:3

B. THE WIFE'S ROLE Ephesians 5:22, Colossians 3:18-22, 1Peter 3:1

1, BE SUBJECT TO HER HUSBAND Eph. 5:22

2. Submission Is Fitting In The Lord Colossians Colossians 3:18

3. Submission To Her Husband Allows Him The Freedom To Change 1 Peter 3:1

a. Unbelievers

b. Believers In Rebellion

Example: v.6 as Sarah obeyed Abraham, calling him lord. And you are her children, if you do good and do not fear anything that is frightening.

C. THE HUSBANDS ROLE

Notice what it says about the husband's role in the following verses:

v. 23 He's the head of the wife in the same way that Christ is Head of His Body, the church

v. 25 He's to love his wife as Christ loved the Church

v. 25 He's to give himself up for his wife

v. 26 He's to seek to spiritually present his wife to Christ in sanctification, splendor, holiness, without blemish.

v. 28 He's to love her as if she were his own body and to nourish and cherish her because she is a member of his own body.

v. 33. He's to love her as himself.

D. THE HUSBAND AS THE LOVER

1. He's To Give Self Up Verse 23 "As Christ loved the church and died for her."

2. What does in mean to love?

Agape Love. 1 Cor.13:4-7 "Love is patient, kind, not jealous, or boastful, not arrogant, not rude, does not insist on it's own way, is not irritable or resentful." "Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never fails"

So to love means we choose to be patient, kind, we choose not to be boastful arrogant or rude, we choose to let our partner have their way. We decide not to be arrogant or act rude toward her.

a. EXERCISE: LOVING MY WIFE AS I AM COMMANDED

Answer the questions that are on the sheet as best you can.

3. Love is a christian character quality that grows as we walk under the control of the Holy Spirit.
4. To Love Means To Be Considerate Of Her | Peter 3:7

E. THE HUSBAND AS THE LEADER

1. HE IS TO BE A PACESETTER
2. HE PROVIDES AUTHORITY IN THE HOME.
 - a. Missing Fathers
 - b. Products of The Culture
3. LEADERSHIP IS NOT DICTATORSHIP
4. AUTHORITY STRUCTURES
 - a. Natural Authority: Gravity
 - b. The Bible
 - c. The Church
 - d. The Family
4. HE IS RESPONSIBLE TO MEET HER NEEDS FOR AFFECTION.
5. HE IS TO PLAN AND GUIDE THE FAMILY.
6. HE IS TO PROVIDE FOR THE PHYSICAL NEEDS OF THE FAMILY. I Tim.5:8

IV. FIVE AREAS TO WORK ON LONG TERM,

Communication, Sexual Relationship, Money, Children, and In-laws.

A. Communication "The heart of marital oneness is the communication system" Elven Smith
Ephesians 4:29, Proverbs 10:19 (ESV)

1. When angry don't sin. Ephesians 4:26 (ESV) 26 Be angry and do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger. **Cliff Barrows: "I'm sorry. I was wrong. Will you forgive me? I love you".**
2. Be kind, tenderhearted forgiving. Ephesians 4:32
3. Ask God to set a watch over what you say. Psalm 141:3
4. Be an encourager. Isaiah 50:4 (ESV)
5. A good word makes another glad. Proverbs 12:25
6. Give soft answers and be gentle. Proverbs 15:1, Proverbs 15:4
7. Think before speaking. Proverbs 15:28
8. Control your mouth and your tongue. Proverbs 13:3

Proverbs 16:21 (ESV) The wise of heart is called discerning, and sweetness of speech increases persuasiveness.

PRACTICAL POINTERS

1. Discipleship is primary
2. Protect your quiet time and your spouse's quiet time
3. Know your purpose individually and as a couple – hint: its not marriage
4. Turn your lives and your marriage completely over to Christ
5. Walk filled by The Spirit
6. Learn to control anger
7. Don't let resentment and bitterness simmer
8. Ask forgiveness for offenses quickly. "I'm sorry, I was wrong, will you forgive me? I love you."
9. Don't practice revenge
10. Don't clam up
11. Live within your means – the objective is not to gain wealth but save eternal treasure
12. Learn your love languages – keep it in perspective- life is not about you
13. Realize that your spouse is not going to meet your deepest needs – Only Christ can
14. Realize that your spouse is a gift, a blessing, and an opportunity to glorify the Lord
15. Men listen to your wife. She is a resource of sensitivity. Ask her about your decisions.