

STUDENT HANDOUT — Seminar 4, Session 3

Marriage Is a Biblical Partnership

INTRODUCTION

The Bible is filled with wonderful marital gems. In this session we want to look to the Scriptures and understand just how God planned marriage. The Bible is filled with great stories, instructions, parables, prophecies, and poetry on the beauty, the love, the struggle, and the fruit of a godly married life.

We want to learn who created marriage, how long it is to last, and how important a Biblical partnership should be.

I. God _____ Marriage. Genesis 1:26-28

A. God _____ the Male and the Female in His image.

1. Men and women are much more alike because they are created in the image of God than they are different.

2. Marriage was not invented by man, but was created and instituted by God.

a. Man did not have a choice in the creation.

b. God married them and made the Garden of Eden their home, a real paradise for newlyweds.

B. God's _____ for marriage is one man for one woman.
Genesis 2:24-25

1. We are to _____ our father and mother.

2. We are to _____ unto each other.

3. We are to become _____ flesh.

II. God Made Marriage to _____ for Life. Matthew 19:4-6

A. God made the marital union of one man and one woman to last for their _____ life.

1. Jesus affirms to Old Testament teaching of God's ideal for marriage.

2. He explains that divorce was granted by Moses as a concession because of the hardness of the hearts of men.

B. God's _____ is available to whoever seeks it to stay married or to live as a single person.

1. Here is God's intent: If you will marry by the _____ of God then you can remain married by the _____ of God.

2. God does not want us to be _____ in our marriages but He does want us to be _____ to let Him work in our lives and solve our problems.

III. God Made Marriage to be a Biblical Partnership. Ephesians 5:21-33

A. Marriage partnership calls for a covenant of _____ to yield your lives to each other and to God. Vs. 21, 22

1. Human love alone is not sufficient, but you must also have God's love to make this marriage partnership possible.

2. This is a call to mutual submission which brings about a partnership with neither one ruling over the other.

B. A woman's response to this Biblical partnership and her yieldedness to God will result in her _____ to her husband's leadership.

C. A man's response to this Biblical partnership and his yieldedness to God will result in his willingness to _____ his life for his wife and family, as Christ did for the church.

D. This marriage partnership is not a _____ and _____ relationship but a total willingness to give and continue to give to each other just like God keeps giving to us.

E. _____ children should be the results of this kind of partnership.

1. Children are one of the greatest gifts of God.

2. Their _____ to you as parents will be radically influenced by how they see you obeying God.

3. There are certain things our children should never hear:

a. I don't _____ you anymore.

b. I married the _____ person.

c. I am _____.

d. I love _____ else.

IV. How Should We Respond to God's Plan for Marriage?

A. Are we committed to living God's _____? Eph. 5:21

B. Is _____ actually at work in our lives?

C. Are we mutually _____ to each other for life?

D. Is our marriage a _____ of heaven here on earth?

* Learn to live consistently.

* Don't live hypocritically.

* Pray together, love together.

* Support each other completely.

CONCLUSION

The Bible teaches us that our marriage should be for the spiritual benefit of our children and grandchildren. That is why we must live consistently before our children.

We must live at home what we confess at church. Pray at home. Live the Christlike life before our children. Read the Scriptures together.

God loved us when we were unlovable. We must do the same.

Marriage is empowered by the grace of God and sustained by the love of God.

Marriage is probably one of the greatest opportunities to experience the goodness and grace of God in your own personal life and to experience love for each other.

Marriage is a vivid illustration of God's love for us.

Let us decide right now to determine to live for the glory of God.