

I. CHRISTIAN LIVING**Ephesians 5:15-21**

Before we sink into biblical marriage references, let's take a moment to look at some practical living in scripture.

1. What instruction do you see in verses 15-16?

2. List 4 things that should be visible in the life of a Christian (vs 17-21).

II. WHAT IS MARRIAGERead **Ephesians 5:21-33**

Fill in the following chart with the things directed exclusively at the husband, at the wife and then those things that are true of both.

exclusively for husbandexclusively for wifefor husband and wife

Do the same for **1 Peter 3:1-9**

exclusively for husband

exclusively for wife

for husband and wife

1. In your own words define marriage.
2. Do you believe marriage is a contract? Why or why not?
3. Do you believe it is more than a contract? How?

For the next few questions refer to **Genesis 2:18-25**.

1. According to Genesis 2:18, what is the purpose of marriage?
2. In your own words, define "a helper comparable to him".

3. What is the significance of woman being taken from the side of man?
4. What does it mean to "leave and be joined to his wife"?
5. The Bible says we are now "one flesh"; what light does that shed on the marriage bond?

III. REASONS FOR GETTING MARRIED

1. Why are you marrying? Why did you get married? Why do you want to get married?
2. What do you think/did you think you will receive from getting married that you would not receive if you remained single?
3. What will/has "*getting married*" cost you?

Look at the list of reasons that people get married; circle any that apply or did apply to you.

- a) We want to get back at your parents by marrying someone of whom they do not approve of.
- b) All my friends are getting married and I feel left out.
- c) I am afraid of being alone all my life.
- d) I am rebounding after a long relationship came to an end.
- e) We have been together so long; it is the next logical step.
- f) I know my fiancé really wants to get married and I am afraid of hurting him/her.
- g) Pregnant.
- h) We are in love.
- i) I love my fiancé's companionship.
- j) I am convinced this is what God has for us.