

THE ULTIMATE EXPRESSION OF KINGDOM: MARRIAGE AND FAMILY

“The One Flesh Purpose of God for Marriage”

(Matthew 19:1-6; Genesis 2:18-24)

“Now when Jesus had finished these sayings, he went away from Galilee and entered the region of Judea beyond the Jordan. ² And large crowds followed him, and he healed them there. ³ And Pharisees came up to him and tested him by asking, ‘Is it lawful to divorce one’s wife for any cause?’ ⁴ He answered, ‘Have you not read that he who created them from the beginning made them male and female, ⁵ 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? ⁶ So they are no longer two but one flesh. What therefore God has joined together let not man separate.’” (Matthew 19:1-6)

This is the same thing God says in Genesis 2:24. *“Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh.”*

❖ Physical Union

When Jesus quotes Genesis 2, He is affirming the ONE FLESH concept.

“Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.” (I Thessalonians 5:23)

Genesis 2:7 say: *“And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.”*

- A Word About Perversion (I Corinthians 6:9-11, 16)

“Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: neither the sexually immoral, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor men who practice homosexuality, ¹⁰ nor thieves, nor the greedy, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers will

inherit the kingdom of God. ¹¹ And such were some of you. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.” (I Corinthians 6:9-11)

“Or do you not know that he who is joined to a prostitute becomes one body with her? For, as it is written, “The two will become one flesh.” (I Corinthians 6:16)

- *A Word About Prevention (I Corinthians 6:18)*

I Corinthians 6:18 says, “Flee fornication.” That means run!

❖ **Psychological Union**

In marriage, there is to be a commitment to **WORK!** This means working towards achieving psychological oneness. We must pursue ...

- Intellectual Oneness through Communication
 - *Learn to listen to the other person.*
 - *Learn to handle your anger.*
 - *Learn to avoid certain words.*
 - *Learn to not dwell on the past.*

Be careful what you say. Be careful how you say it. Be careful when you say it.

Be careful why you say it.

- Emotional Oneness through Consideration

We have to learn to be considerate of one another.

- *Every person needs to be loved.*
- *Every person needs to be respected.*

They need to feel that they have self worth and that they are a person.

- *Every person needs to feel appreciated.*

They need to feel like what they do matters to someone and that someone is appreciative of the things they do.

❖ **Spiritual Union**

There are some things we all need in our homes:

- Family Likeness

Be LIKE Jesus! The Bible says in Ephesians 5:25,

*"Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it."
(Ephesians 5:25)*

- Act Sacrificially
- Avoid Selfishness

- Family Altar

I want to suggest to you that you *institute a family altar* in your home.