

HURTING HOUSEHOLDS

Malachi Series: Part 2

June 7, 2026

Pastor Brian

¹¹ Judah has been unfaithful, and a detestable thing has been done in Israel and in Jerusalem. The men of Judah have defiled the LORD's beloved sanctuary by marrying women who worship idols. ¹² May the LORD cut off from the nation of Israel every last man who has done this and yet brings an offering to the LORD of Heaven's Armies.

¹³ Here is another thing you do. You cover the LORD's altar with tears, weeping and groaning because he pays no attention to your offerings and doesn't accept them with pleasure. ¹⁴ You cry out, "Why doesn't the LORD accept my worship?" I'll tell you why! Because the LORD witnessed the vows you and your wife made when you were young. But you have been unfaithful to her, though she remained your faithful partner, the wife of your marriage vows.

¹⁵ Didn't the LORD make you one with your wife? In body and spirit you are his. And what does he want? Godly children from your union. SO GUARD YOUR HEART; remain loyal to the wife of your youth. ¹⁶ "For I hate divorce!" says the LORD, the God of Israel. "To divorce your wife is to overwhelm her with cruelty," says the LORD of Heaven's Armies. "So guard your heart; do not be unfaithful to your wife." Malachi 2:11–16 (NLT)

The Purposes of Marriage

1. To provide COMPANIONSHIP.

"The Lord God said, "It isn't good for the man to live alone. I need to make a suitable partner for him."" (Genesis 2:18, CEV)

2. To build CHARACTER.

"Love is patient and kind. Love is not jealous or boastful or proud or rude. It does not demand its own way. It is not irritable, and it keeps no record of being wronged. It does not rejoice about injustice but rejoices whenever the truth wins out. Love never gives up, never loses faith, is always hopeful, and endures through every circumstance." (1 Corinthians 13:4–7, NLT)

3. To create a CONTEXT for raising kids.

"Didn't God create you to become like one person with your wife? And why did he do this? It was so you would have children, and then lead them to become God's people..." (Malachi 2:15, CEV)

4. To CONVEY the beauty of the church.

*“This is a great mystery, but it is an **illustration** of the way Christ and the church are one.”
(Ephesians 5:32, NLT)*

SIX PRIORITIES OF A HEALTHY MARRIAGE

1. CONSECRATION.

*“Stop forming inappropriate relationships with unbelievers. Can right and wrong be partners? Can light have anything in common with darkness? Can Christ agree with the devil? **Can a believer share life with an unbeliever?**” (2 Corinthians 6:14–15, GW)*

2. COMMUNICATION.

*“An unreliable messenger can cause a lot of trouble. Reliable **communication** permits **progress.**” (Proverbs 13:17, The Living Bible)*

3. CONSIDERATION.

*“Love one another with mutual affection; **outdo one another** in showing honor.” (Romans 12:10, NRSV)*

4. ACCOMMODATION.

*“**Love does not demand its own way.**” (1 Corinthians 13:5b, The Living Bible)*

“Do nothing out of rivalry...but in humility consider others as more important than yourselves.” (Philippians 2:3, HCSB)

5. RECREATION.

“So be happy with your wife and find your joy with the woman you married...Let her charms keep you happy; let her surround you with her love.” (Proverbs 5:18–19, GNB)

*“**Life is short,** and you love your wife, so **enjoy being with her.**” (Ecclesiastes 9:9a, CEV)*

6. DEDICATION.

*“Therefore a man **leaves** his father and his mother and **cleaves** to his wife, and they become one flesh.” (Genesis 2:24, RSV)*

“I hate divorce,” says the LORD God of Israel. “...Make sure that you do not break your promise to be faithful to your wife.” (Malachi 2:16, GNB)

Commitment means:

BEING WILLING TO BE UNHAPPY WHILE WE WORK IT OUT.

NEXT STEPS:

Series Step:

Take or Retake **3rd BASE** -Wed June 10 @ 5:30PM or Sun June 28 @ 9AM



Cohabiting? **Tie the Knot!**

Conflict? Get **Counseling.**

Cruising? 5-Day **Reading Plan**