

Truth about Marriage

Genesis 1:28 (NKJV) Then God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth."

I. Marriage is a God thing.

God uses marriage to describe His relationship with the Church!

Matthew 25:1 (NLT) "Then the Kingdom of Heaven will be like ten bridesmaids who took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom."

Ephesians 5:31 (NLT) As the Scriptures say, "A man leaves his father and mother and is joined to his wife, and the two are united into one." This is a great mystery, but it is an illustration of the way Christ and the church are one.

Revelation 19:7 (AMP) Let us rejoice and shout for joy [exulting and triumphant]! Let us celebrate and ascribe to Him glory and honor, for the marriage of the Lamb [at last] has come, and His bride has prepared herself.

II. Marriage is a Covenant, not a Contract.

Genesis 15:17-18 (NLT) After the sun went down and darkness fell, Abram saw a smoking firepot and a flaming torch pass between the halves of the carcasses. So the LORD made a covenant with Abram...

Exodus 24:8 (NKJV) And Moses took the blood, sprinkled it on the people, and said, "This is the blood of the covenant which the LORD has made with you according to all these words."

Ephesians 1:7 (AMP) In Him we have redemption (deliverance and salvation) through His blood, the remission (forgiveness) of our offenses (shortcomings and trespasses), in accordance with the riches and the generosity of His gracious favor.

Consummate: make (a marriage or relationship) complete by having sexual intercourse.

Covenants were always consummated with the shedding of blood: Abraham, Moses, Christ, and marriage. Why? Because blood is shed when virginity is lost. Marital sex is more than a means of procreation and a safe outlet for our sexual drives. It is holy to God because it symbolizes the pure soul intimacy He wants to share with us. To engage in sex as a casual activity is to strip it of its true meaning.

Hebrews 13:4 (NASB95) Marriage is to be held in honor among all, and the marriage bed is to be undefiled; for fornicators and adulterers, God will judge.

We are joined together in God's eyes!

****Malachi 2:13-16 (NASB95)** "This is another thing you do: you cover the altar of the LORD with tears, with weeping and with groaning, because He no longer regards the offering or accepts it with favor from your hand. "Yet you say, 'For what reason?' Because the LORD has been a witness between you and the wife of your youth, against whom you have dealt treacherously, though she is your companion and your wife by covenant."

III. What is causing divorce today? No Commitment!

Genesis 2:24 (NLT) This explains why a man leaves his father and mother and is joined to his wife, and the two are united into one.

Mark 10:6-9 (NASB95) "But from the beginning of creation, God MADE THEM MALE AND FEMALE. "FOR THIS REASON A MAN SHALL LEAVE HIS FATHER AND MOTHER, AND THE TWO SHALL BECOME ONE FLESH; so they are no longer two, but one flesh. "What therefore God has joined together, let no man separate."

2 Corinthians 6:14-15 (NLT) Don't team up with those who are unbelievers. How can righteousness be a partner with wickedness? How can light live with darkness? What harmony can there be between Christ and the devil? How can a believer be a partner with an unbeliever?

1 Peter 3:7 (NASB95) You husbands in the same way, live with your wives in an understanding way, as with someone weaker, since she is a woman; **and show her honor as a fellow heir of the grace of life, so that your prayers will not be hindered.**

IV. God honors marriage, and so should we!

Our Society is under the impression that respect must be deserved!

*****Honor: show respect and give recognition, often implying action to show that respect.**

The blessings of a Godly marriage

Genesis 1:28 (NKJV) Then God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth."

We are joined together in God's eyes, thus blessed together!

Proverbs 18:22 (NASB95) He who finds a wife finds a good thing and **obtains favor** from the LORD.

*****Ephesians 5:21-33 (NLT)** And further, submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.

Colossians 3:18-19 (NASB95) Wives, be subject to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord. Husbands love your wives, and do not be embittered against them.

Even if we marry someone who is not saved!

1 Peter 3:1-2 (NLT) In the same way, you wives must accept the authority of your husbands. Then, even if some refuse to obey, 1

Corinthians 7:14 (AMP) For the unbelieving husband is set apart (separated, withdrawn from heathen contamination, and affiliated with the Christian people) by union with his consecrated (set-apart) wife, and the unbelieving wife is set apart and separated through union with her consecrated husband. Otherwise, your children would be unclean (unblessed heathen, outside the Christian covenant), but as it is, they are prepared for God [pure and clean].
the Good News, your godly lives will speak to them without any words. They will be won over by observing your pure and reverent lives.

Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 (NLT) Two people are better off than one, for they can help each other succeed. If one person falls, the other can reach out and help. But someone who falls alone is in real trouble. Likewise, two people lying close together can keep each other warm. But how can one be warm alone? A person standing alone can be attacked and defeated, but two can stand back-to-back and conquer. Three are even better, for a triple-braided cord is not easily broken.

Proverbs 5:18-19 (NLT) Let your wife be a fountain of blessing for you. Rejoice in the wife of your youth. She is a loving deer, a graceful doe. Let her breasts satisfy you always. May you always be captivated by her love.