God Family Country

# GUIDED BIBLE STUDY

## Building a Marriage That Reflects God

**Speaker: Donnie Thomas**

### Highlighted Scripture

**• Genesis 2:24**
**"For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and they will become one flesh."**

**Donnie uses this passage as the biblical foundation for his message about marriage. Marriage is more than a wedding or simply two people sharing a life—it is a covenant relationship in which husband and wife are joined together as one.**

### Discussion Questions

**• Genesis 2:24 describes a husband and wife becoming "one flesh." What does that teach us about God's intention for marriage?**

**• Donnie challenges married couples to consider what younger people see when they observe their relationship. Does the way we talk about marriage make it appear like something worth pursuing?**

• What's the difference between pretending a marriage never has difficulties and choosing to speak about your spouse and marriage with honor?

• Donnie emphasizes keeping God at the center of marriage. What are some practical ways a husband and wife can intentionally pursue God together?

• Whether married or unmarried, how can we encourage and support healthy, God-honoring marriages around us?

## Reflection Challenge

Consider how your words and actions portray marriage to the people around you.

If you're married, ask yourself:

• Do the things I say about my spouse build them up or tear them down?

• Does my spouse know through my actions that our relationship is a priority?

• Are we intentionally pursuing God together?

• Have I allowed life's pressures to create unnecessary distance between us?

If you're not married:

• How can I encourage the marriages of people around me?

• Am I developing the character and relationship with God that I would want to bring into a future marriage?

Try this:

• Tell your spouse one thing you genuinely appreciate about them.

• Pray specifically for your marriage—or for a married couple you know.

• If something needs to be addressed in your marriage, choose a healthy private conversation rather than publicly criticizing your spouse.

• Look for one practical way to serve your spouse without expecting anything in return.

Remember

• Marriage is more important than the wedding.

• God designed marriage to create a deep union between husband and wife.

• Strong marriages still experience difficult seasons.

• The way we speak about our spouse can either honor or damage our relationship.

• Pursuing God together can draw a husband and wife closer together.

• Healthy marriages can provide a powerful example to the next generation.

## Prayer

Father God,

Thank You for the gift of marriage and for the relationships You have placed in our lives. Help husbands and wives honor

the covenant they have made and love one another with patience, humility, faithfulness, and grace.

When life becomes difficult, help couples turn toward You and toward one another rather than allowing hardship to drive them apart. Teach us to speak about marriage in ways that are honest but also honoring. Strengthen struggling marriages, give wisdom where help is needed, and help Christian couples provide the next generation with examples of faithful, Christ-centered love.

For those who are unmarried, help them honor marriage, encourage the couples around them, and grow in their own relationship with You.

In Jesus' name,

Amen.