



Finding Peace in Marriage | Sunday, August 3

Main Scripture: 2 Corinthians 1:3–7

Supporting Scriptures:

Genesis 2:18–25, Ephesians 5:25–33, 1 Corinthians 7:7–8, Isaiah 54:5

Introduction:

Whether you're married, single, divorced, or widowed, relationships are one of the most significant and sometimes most stressful parts of life. Finding Peace in Marriage is part of our "Finding Peace..." series, where we're learning to experience God's comfort in everyday situations. The bible teaches that peace doesn't come from perfect circumstances or perfect people, but from the presence of Christ—who comforts us in all our troubles and gives us the ability to love others well. Whether you're in a season of joy or difficulty, today's truths apply to you.

Peace doesn't come from perfect compatibility—but from Christlike commitment.

The Backdrop: God is the Father of Compassion and the Source of all Comfort

2 Corinthians 1:3-7 NLT

All praise to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is our merciful Father and the source of all comfort. 4 He comforts us in all our troubles so that we can comfort others. When they are troubled, we will be able to give them the same comfort God has given us. 5 For the more we suffer for Christ, the more God will shower us with his comfort through Christ. 6 Even when we are weighed down with troubles, it is for your comfort and salvation! For when we ourselves are comforted, we will certainly comfort you. Then you can patiently endure the same things we suffer. 7 We are confident that as you share in our sufferings, you will also share in the comfort God gives us.

- God's comfort shows up not by removing trouble, but by being with us through it.

Truth #1: Marriage Is a Gift from God

Genesis 2:18–25 NLT

Then the Lord God said, “It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper who is just right for him.” 19 So the Lord God formed from the ground all the wild animals and all the birds of the sky. He brought them to the man[a] to see what he would call them, and the man chose a name for each one. 20 He gave names to all the livestock, all the birds of the sky, and all the wild animals. But still there was no helper just right for him. 21 So the Lord God caused the man to fall into a deep sleep. While the man slept, the Lord God took out one of the man’s ribs[b] and closed up the opening. 22 Then the Lord God made a woman from the rib, and he brought her to the man. 23 “At last!” the man exclaimed. “This one is bone from my bone, and flesh from my flesh! She will be called ‘woman,’ because she was taken from ‘man.’” 24 This explains why a man leaves his father and mother and is joined to his wife, and the two are united into one. 25 Now the man and his wife were both naked, but they felt no shame.

- God designed marriage as a gift: two complimentary image-bearers - male and female, uniquely different, joined together.
- Even though sin entered the world, marriage still reflects God’s design.
- Peace in marriage is possible even between two imperfect people when Christ is at the center.

TRUTH #2. A Word to the Single: Singleness Is Also a Gift

1 Corinthians 7:7–8 NLT

But I wish everyone were single, just as I am. Yet each person has a special gift from God, of one kind or another. 8 So I say to those who aren’t married and to widows—it’s better to stay unmarried, just as I am.

- Paul calls singleness a gift—not a second-class status.

Isaiah 54:5 NLT

For your Creator will be your husband; the Lord of Heaven’s Armies is his name! He is your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel, the God of all the earth.

- For the single, widowed, or divorced: you are not alone, and you are not forgotten. You are cherished by the One who made you.

TRUTH #3. Marriage Is a Living Parable

Ephesians 5:25–33 NLT

For husbands, this means love your wives, just as Christ loved the church. He gave up his life for her 26 to make her holy and clean, washed by the cleansing of God's word.[a] 27 He did this to present her to himself as a glorious church without a spot or wrinkle or any other blemish. Instead, she will be holy and without fault. 28 In the same way, husbands ought to love their wives as they love their own bodies. For a man who loves his wife actually shows love for himself. 29 No one hates his own body but feeds and cares for it, just as Christ cares for the church. 30 And we are members of his body.

31 As the Scriptures say, "A man leaves his father and mother and is joined to his wife, and the two are united into one." [b] 32 This is a great mystery, but it is an illustration of the way Christ and the church are one. 33 So again I say, each man must love his wife as he loves himself, and the wife must respect her husband.

- Marriage is meant to reflect the relationship between Christ and the Church.
- Husbands are called to love like Jesus—sacrificially.
- Wives are called to respect and support—like the Church trusts Christ.

Peace doesn't come from perfect compatibility—but from Christlike commitment.

4. Real Life Example: Michael & Sherry Jensen

- Married 35 years.
- Leading our ReEngage Marriage Enrichment pilot.
- Their story shows how growing closer to Christ, together, brings peace and strength.

The Requests of EVERY Listener Who is a Follower of Jesus:

To the Married:

Invite Christ's comfort into your relationship. Build peace through prayer, forgiveness, and grace.

To the Single:

You are complete in Christ. For those who desire your marriage, remember your singleness is not wasted—it's meaningful.

To Everyone:

True peace doesn't come from your human relationship status, but from your relationship with Jesus.

Discussion Questions:

- What are some ways you've experienced God's comfort in relationships—especially in hard seasons?
- How does knowing marriage is God's idea change the way we approach it?
- If you're single, how does Isaiah 54:5 speak to your heart today?
- In what ways can your marriage (or singleness) reflect the love of Christ to others?
- What practical steps can you take this week to bring peace into your closest relationships?
- **Remember, peace doesn't come from perfect compatibility—but from Christlike commitment.**