

2 BECOME 3
Family Matters
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1. MARRIAGE _____ WITH GOD

¹⁸ Then the Lord God said, “It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper corresponding to him.” ¹⁹ The Lord God formed out of the ground every wild animal and every bird of the sky, and brought each to the man to see what he would call it. And whatever the man called a living creature, that was its name. ²⁰ The man gave names to all the livestock, to the birds of the sky, and to every wild animal; but for the man no helper was found corresponding to him. ²¹ So the Lord God caused a deep sleep to come over the man, and he slept. God took one of his ribs and closed the flesh at that place. ²² Then the Lord God made the rib he had taken from the man into a woman and brought her to the man. ²³ And the man said: This one, at last, is bone of my bone and flesh of my flesh; this one will be called “woman,” for she was taken from man. ²⁴ This is why a man leaves his father and mother and bonds with his wife, and they become one flesh. Genesis 2:18–24

²⁰ I have been crucified with Christ, and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. Galatians 2:20

⁴ “Haven’t you read,” he replied, “that he who created them in the beginning **made them male and female**,” ⁵ and he also said, ‘**For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two will become one flesh**’? ⁶ So they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore, what God has joined together, let no one separate.” Matthew 19:4–6

2. MARRIAGE IS TO MAKE US _____ NOT _____

²² Wives, submit to your husbands as to the Lord, ²³ because the husband is the head of the wife as Christ is the head of the church. He is the Savior of the body. ²⁴ Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives are to submit to their husbands in everything. ²⁵ Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself for her ²⁶ **to make her holy, cleansing her with the washing of water by the word.** ²⁷ He did this to present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or anything like that, but holy and blameless. ²⁸ In the same way, husbands are to love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. ²⁹ For no one ever hates his own flesh but provides and cares for it, just as Christ does for the church, ³⁰ since we are members of his body. ³¹ **For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two will become one flesh.** ³² This mystery is profound, but I am talking about Christ and the church. ³³ To sum up,

each one of you is to love his wife as himself, and the wife is to respect her husband. Ephesians 5:22–33

⁵ Adopt the same attitude as that of Christ Jesus, ⁶ who, existing in the form of God, did not consider equality with God as something to be exploited. ⁷ Instead he emptied himself by assuming the form of a servant, taking on the likeness of humanity. And when he had come as a man, ⁸ he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death— even to death on a cross. Philippians 2:5–8

3. MARRIAGE _____ TO LOVE

⁴ Love is patient, love is kind. Love does not envy, is not boastful, is not arrogant, ⁵ is not rude, is not self-seeking, is not irritable, and does not keep a record of wrongs. ⁶ Love finds no joy in unrighteousness but rejoices in the truth. ⁷ It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. 1 Corinthians 13:4–7

¹³ But encourage each other daily, while it is still called **today**, so that none of you is hardened by sin’s deception. Hebrews 3:13

**HERE ARE SOME BASIC PRACTICAL GUIDELINES FOR
FOSTERING A GODLY MARRIAGE:**

- Pray together regularly (Colossians 4:2). Praying as a couple will strengthen your spiritual bond and bring you both closer to the Lord. Be authentic with each other, confess your sins, and share your struggles.
- Read the Bible together regularly (Psalms 119:105).
- Attend church, worship together, and get plugged into the body of Christ. Serving and sharing your lives with other believers will build you up in the faith and provide a network of friends and counselors to support you through challenging times (Hebrews 10:24–25).
- Make important decisions together (Amos 3:3).
- Keep the lines of communication open (James 1:19). Listen to your spouse to hear what he or she is saying. Be honest and sincere. Treat each other with kindness and respect. Be quick to forgive.
- Nurture the romantic side of your relationship (Proverbs 5:18). Remember to have fun together, hold hands, laugh together, and admire each other’s accomplishments.

⁹ If you confess with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord,” and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰ One believes with the heart, resulting in righteousness, and one confesses with the mouth, resulting in salvation. Romans 10:9–10

(CSB – Christian Standard Bible)