



God's Design for Marriage

The Effects of the Curse on Marriage
And
God's Provision



Assignment from Last Week

Consider your own marriage. Can you see some of the effects of the fall?

Take time this week to reflect on God's grace at the time of the fall.

Consider your own heart. Are you recognizing sin in your own life?



From Innocence to Tragedy

Cain and Abel

Genesis 4:1–2

¹ Now the man had relations with his wife Eve, and she conceived and gave birth to Cain, and she said, “I have gotten a manchild with the help of the LORD.”

² Again, she gave birth to his brother Abel. And Abel was a keeper of flocks, but Cain was a tiller of the ground.

Marriage Complicated

Daughters of Men

Genesis 6:1–6

¹ Now it came about, when men began to multiply on the face of the land, and daughters were born to them,

² that the sons of God saw that the daughters of men were beautiful; and they took wives for themselves, whomever they chose.

³ Then the LORD said, “My Spirit shall not strive with man forever, because he also is flesh; nevertheless his days shall be one hundred and twenty years.”

⁴ The Nephilim were on the earth in those days, and also afterward, when the sons of God came in to the daughters of men, and they bore children to them. Those were the mighty men who were of old, men of renown.

⁵ Then the LORD saw that the wickedness of man was great on the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.

⁶ The LORD was sorry that He had made man on the earth, and He was grieved in His heart.

Marriage Complicated

Abraham and Sarah - Deception

Genesis 12:11–13

¹¹ It came about when he came near to Egypt, that he said to Sarai his wife, “See now, I know that you are a beautiful woman;

¹² and when the Egyptians see you, they will say, ‘This is his wife’; and they will kill me, but they will let you live.

¹³ “Please say that you are my sister so that it may go well with me because of you, and that I may live on account of you.”

Marriage Complicated

Abraham and Sarah - Sin

Genesis 16:1–2

¹ Now Sarai, Abram's wife had borne him no children, and she had an Egyptian maid whose name was Hagar.

² So Sarai said to Abram, "Now behold, the LORD has prevented me from bearing children. Please go in to my maid; perhaps I will obtain children through her." And Abram listened to the voice of Sarai.

Marriage Complicated

Abraham and Sarah - Deception

Genesis 20:1–3

¹ Now Abraham journeyed from there toward the land of the Negev, and settled between Kadesh and Shur; then he sojourned in Gerar.

² Abraham said of Sarah his wife, “She is my sister.” So Abimelech king of Gerar sent and took Sarah.

³ But God came to Abimelech in a dream of the night, and said to him, “Behold, you are a dead man because of the woman whom you have taken, for she is married.”

Marriage Complicated

Sodom and Gomorrah - Homosexuality

Genesis 19:3–6

³ Yet he urged them strongly, so they turned aside to him and entered his house; and he prepared a feast for them, and baked unleavened bread, and they ate.

⁴ Before they lay down, the men of the city, the men of Sodom, surrounded the house, both young and old, all the people from every quarter;

⁵ and they called to Lot and said to him, “Where are the men who came to you tonight? Bring them out to us that we may have relations with them.”

⁶ But Lot went out to them at the doorway, and shut the door behind him...



Marriage Complicated

Lot and his daughters - Incest

Genesis 19:31–32

³¹ Then the firstborn said to the younger, “Our father is old, and there is not a man on earth to come in to us after the manner of the earth.

³² “Come, let us make our father drink wine, and let us lie with him that we may preserve our family through our father.”

Marriage Complicated

Tamar – Deception and Prostitution

Genesis 38:13–18

¹³ It was told to Tamar, “Behold, your father-in-law is going up to Timnah to shear his sheep.”

¹⁴ So she removed her widow’s garments and covered herself with a veil, and wrapped herself, and sat in the gateway of Enaim, which is on the road to Timnah; for she saw that Shelah had grown up, and she had not been given to him as a wife.

¹⁵ When Judah saw her, he thought she was a harlot, for she had covered her face.

¹⁶ So he turned aside to her by the road, and said, “Here now, let me come in to you”; for he did not know that she was his daughter-in-law. And she said, “What will you give me, that you may come in to me?”

¹⁷ He said, therefore, “I will send you a young goat from the flock.” She said, moreover, “Will you give a pledge until you send it?”

¹⁸ He said, “What pledge shall I give you?” And she said, “Your seal and your cord, and your staff that is in your hand.” So he gave them to her and went in to her, and she conceived by him.

Marriage Complicated

Moses and Zipporah - Conflict

Exodus 4:25

²⁵ Then Zipporah took a flint and cut off her son's foreskin and threw it at Moses' feet, and she said, "You are indeed a bridegroom of blood to me."

Marriage Complicated

David and Bathsheba – Adultery and Murder

2 Samuel 11:1–5

¹ Then it happened in the spring, at the time when kings go out to battle, that David sent Joab and his servants with him and all Israel, and they destroyed the sons of Ammon and besieged Rabbah. But David stayed at Jerusalem.

² Now when evening came David arose from his bed and walked around on the roof of the king's house, and from the roof he saw a woman bathing; and the woman was very beautiful in appearance.

³ So David sent and inquired about the woman. And one said, “Is this not Bathsheba, the daughter of Eliam, the wife of Uriah the Hittite?”

⁴ David sent messengers and took her, and when she came to him, he lay with her; and when she had purified herself from her uncleanness, she returned to her house.

⁵ The woman conceived; and she sent and told David, and said, “I am pregnant.”

Marriage Complicated

Tamar – Rape

2 Samuel 13:1–5

¹ Now it was after this that Absalom the son of David had a beautiful sister whose name was Tamar, and Amnon the son of David loved her.

² Amnon was so frustrated because of his sister Tamar that he made himself ill, for she was a virgin, and it seemed hard to Amnon to do anything to her.

³ But Amnon had a friend whose name was Jonadab, the son of Shimeah, David's brother; and Jonadab was a very shrewd man.

⁴ He said to him, "O son of the king, why are you so depressed morning after morning? Will you not tell me?" Then Amnon said to him, "I am in love with Tamar, the sister of my brother Absalom."

⁵ Jonadab then said to him, "Lie down on your bed and pretend to be ill; when your father comes to see you, say to him, 'Please let my sister Tamar come and give me some food to eat, and let her prepare the food in my sight, that I may see it and eat from her hand.' "

Marriage Complicated

Hosea and Gomer - Prostitution

Hosea 1:2

² When the LORD first spoke through Hosea, the LORD said to Hosea, “Go, take to yourself a wife of harlotry and have children of harlotry; for the land commits flagrant harlotry, forsaking the LORD.”

Marriage Complicated

Job and his Wife - Conflict

Job 2:8–10

⁸ And he took a potsherd to scrape himself while he was sitting among the ashes.

⁹ Then his wife said to him, “Do you still hold fast your integrity? Curse God and die!”

¹⁰ But he said to her, “You speak as one of the foolish women speaks. Shall we indeed accept good from God and not accept adversity?” In all this Job did not sin with his lips.

Marriage – An Example

Ruth and Boaz

Ruth 4:13–17

¹³ So Boaz took Ruth, and she became his wife, and he went in to her. And the LORD enabled her to conceive, and she gave birth to a son.

¹⁴ Then the women said to Naomi, “Blessed is the LORD who has not left you without a redeemer today, and may his name become famous in Israel.

¹⁵ “May he also be to you a restorer of life and a sustainer of your old age; for your daughter-in-law, who loves you and is better to you than seven sons, has given birth to him.”

¹⁶ Then Naomi took the child and laid him in her lap, and became his nurse.

¹⁷ The neighbor women gave him a name, saying, “A son has been born to Naomi!” So they named him Obed. He is the father of Jesse, the father of David.

Marriage – An Example

Joseph and Mary

Matthew 1:18–20

¹⁸ Now the birth of Jesus Christ was as follows: when His mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child by the Holy Spirit.

¹⁹ And Joseph her husband, being a righteous man and not wanting to disgrace her, planned to send her away secretly.

²⁰ But when he had considered this, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, “Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife; for the Child who has been conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit.

Marriage – An Example

Zacharias and Elizabeth

Luke 1:5–7

⁵ In the days of Herod, king of Judea, there was a priest named Zacharias, of the division of Abijah; and he had a wife from the daughters of Aaron, and her name was Elizabeth.

⁶ They were both righteous in the sight of God, walking blamelessly in all the commandments and requirements of the Lord.

⁷ But they had no child, because Elizabeth was barren, and they were both advanced in years.

Marriage – An Example

Priscilla and Aquila

Acts 18:24–26

²⁴ Now a Jew named Apollos, an Alexandrian by birth, an eloquent man, came to Ephesus; and he was mighty in the Scriptures.

²⁵ This man had been instructed in the way of the Lord; and being fervent in spirit, he was speaking and teaching accurately the things concerning Jesus, being acquainted only with the baptism of John;

²⁶ and he began to speak out boldly in the synagogue. But when Priscilla and Aquila heard him, they took him aside and explained to him the way of God more accurately.



Marriage God's Way

Hebrews 13:4

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

Proverbs 5:18

¹⁸ Let your fountain be blessed, And rejoice in the wife of your youth.

Proverbs 18:22

²² He who finds a wife finds a good thing And obtains favor from the LORD.



A Gospel-Centered Marriage

Salvation

Mark 1:14–15

¹⁴ Now after John had been taken into custody, Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of God,

¹⁵ and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel.”



A Gospel-Centered Marriage

Salvation

Romans 10:9–10

⁹ that if you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved;

¹⁰ for with the heart a person believes, resulting in righteousness, and with the mouth he confesses, resulting in salvation.



A Gospel-Centered Marriage

Salvation

Matthew 7:24–27

²⁴ “Therefore everyone who hears these words of Mine and acts on them, may be compared to a wise man who built his house on the rock.

²⁵ “And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and slammed against that house; and yet it did not fall, for it had been founded on the rock.

²⁶ “Everyone who hears these words of Mine and does not act on them, will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand.

²⁷ “The rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and slammed against that house; and it fell—and great was its fall.”



A Gospel-Centered Marriage

The Priority of Relationship

Luke 14:26

²⁶ “If anyone comes to Me, and does not hate his own father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters, yes, and even his own life, he cannot be My disciple.



A Gospel-Centered Marriage

What are the Priorities of an
Obedient Christian?



Marriage God's Way

Application

Have you ever repented of your sin and turned to Christ in faith? Is your primary goal in this life to deny yourself, take up your cross and follow Jesus?

If your marriage were being highlighted in Scripture, how would it fare? Would it be a good example or a bad example? What do you think needs to change in order for it to be a great example?

If your life were being highlighted in Scripture, how would it fare? Would it be a good example or a bad example? What do you think needs to change in order for it to be a great example?