



# God's Design for Marriage



# God's Plan for Marriage

Application for parenting

Where do you agree with your spouse concerning discipline and standards for your personal lives and children?

Where do you disagree with your spouse concerning discipline and standards for your personal lives and children?

If you have not discussed the differences, you must not only discuss them but come to a working, God-honoring agreement!



# God's Plan for Marriage

## Application for finances

What areas of your finances reflect God's priorities?

What areas of your finances do not reflect God's priorities?

Discuss the financial areas that need to change and establish a plan. Seek wise counsel if you need help.



# God's Design for Marriage

Intimacy



# Intimacy

## Barriers to Physical Intimacy

Relationships that are not Biblically defined

Knowledge of biblical roles but a lack of application

Sinful patterns

Poor communication

Time – unreasonable schedules

# Intimacy

## The Divine Plan for Marriage

Genesis 1:28

<sup>28</sup> God blessed them; and God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth, and subdue it; and rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over every living thing that moves on the earth.”

Hebrews 13:4

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



# Intimacy

Pleasure in sex is not sinful but rather assumed and encouraged in Scripture:

Proverbs 5:16–19

<sup>16</sup> Should your springs be dispersed abroad, Streams of water in the streets?

<sup>17</sup> Let them be yours alone And not for strangers with you.

<sup>18</sup> Let your fountain be blessed, And rejoice in the wife of your youth.

<sup>19</sup> As a loving hind and a graceful doe, Let her breasts satisfy you at all times; Be exhilarated always with her love.



# Intimacy

Three reasons for physical intimacy

Fulfill oneness

To fulfill the desires of one's partner

The blessing of children



# Intimacy

Sexual intimacy should not be self-focused

1 Corinthians 13:5

<sup>5</sup> does not act unbecomingly; it **does not seek its own**, is not provoked, does not take into account a wrong suffered,

1 Corinthians 7:3

<sup>3</sup> The husband must fulfill his duty to his wife, and likewise also the wife to her husband.



# Intimacy

God's kindness to His children:

James 1:17

<sup>17</sup> Every good thing given and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shifting shadow.



# Intimacy

## Our Response

Colossians 3:17

<sup>17</sup> Whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through Him to God the Father.

1 Corinthians 10:31

<sup>31</sup> Whether, then, you eat or drink or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.



# God's Plan for Marriage

Application for intimacy

Are there areas in your personal life that are not consistent with God's priorities?

Develop a plan to bring your life into biblical submission to the Lord.

Seek to glorify God in your physical relationship.



# God's Design for Marriage

Review



# God's Design for Marriage

## God Ordained Marriage

Genesis 1:27–28

<sup>27</sup> God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.

<sup>28</sup> God blessed them; and God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth, and subdue it; and rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over every living thing that moves on the earth.”



# God's Design for Marriage

Sin has marred marriage

Genesis 3:6–7

<sup>6</sup> When the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was desirable to make one wise, she took from its fruit and ate; and she gave also to her husband with her, and he ate.

<sup>7</sup> Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loin coverings.



# God's Design for Marriage

God has made provision for our sin problem!

Genesis 3:15

<sup>15</sup> And I will put enmity Between you and the woman,  
And between your seed and her seed; He shall bruise  
you on the head, And you shall bruise him on the  
heel.”

Romans 16:20

<sup>20</sup> The God of peace will soon crush Satan under your  
feet. The grace of our Lord Jesus be with you.





# God's Design for Marriage

God has made provision for our sin problem!

Romans 5:12–15

<sup>12</sup> Therefore, just as through one man sin entered into the world, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men, because all sinned—

<sup>13</sup> for until the Law sin was in the world, but sin is not imputed when there is no law.

<sup>14</sup> Nevertheless death reigned from Adam until Moses, even over those who had not sinned in the likeness of the offense of Adam, who is a type of Him who was to come.

<sup>15</sup> But the free gift is not like the transgression. For if by the transgression of the one the many died, much more did the grace of God and the gift by the grace of the one Man, Jesus Christ, abound to the many.



# God's Design for Marriage

Your walk with Christ must come first!

Luke 9:23

<sup>23</sup> And He was saying to them all, "If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross daily and follow Me.

1 Corinthians 10:31

<sup>31</sup> Whether, then, you eat or drink or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.



# God's Design for Marriage

Seek to fulfill your biblical role as a wife or husband

Study the Scriptures and seek to obey them fully

Make it your goal to glorify God – not change your spouse.

If your spouse is not pursuing the same objectives, don't be deterred from your purpose.



# God's Design for Marriage

Communication is essential for a healthy relationship.

Make sure that your communication with God is as it should be.

Carefully consider weaknesses in your communication and strive to improve in very practical ways

When you find yourself communicating in an unbiblical way, repent and do the opposite.



# God's Design for Marriage

Communication is essential for a healthy relationship.

Make sure that your communication with your spouse is as it should be.

Carefully consider weaknesses in your communication and strive to improve in very practical ways

When you find yourself communicating in an unbiblical way, repent and do the opposite.



# God's Design for Marriage

Remember the source of conflict

James 4:1–3

<sup>1</sup> What is the source of quarrels and conflicts among you? Is not the source your pleasures that wage war in your members?

<sup>2</sup> You lust and do not have; so you commit murder. You are envious and cannot obtain; so you fight and quarrel. You do not have because you do not ask.

<sup>3</sup> You ask and do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, so that you may spend it on your pleasures.



# God's Design for Marriage

Determine to biblically resolve conflict to the extent that you are able.

Romans 12:18

<sup>18</sup> If possible, so far as it depends on you, be at peace with all men.



# God's Design for Marriage

Respond biblically when you are treated unjustly

1 Peter 2:21–23

<sup>21</sup> For you have been called for this purpose, since Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example for you to follow in His steps,

<sup>22</sup> WHO COMMITTED NO SIN, NOR WAS ANY DECEIT FOUND IN HIS MOUTH;

<sup>23</sup> and while being reviled, He did not revile in return; while suffering, He uttered no threats, but kept entrusting Himself to Him who judges righteously;





# God's Design for Marriage

Be quick to forgive!

1 Peter 4:8

<sup>8</sup> Above all, keep fervent in your love for one another, because love covers a multitude of sins.

Matthew 6:12

<sup>12</sup> 'And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.



# God's Design for Marriage

Biblically address habitual and willful sin in your own life and the life of your spouse.

1 John 1:9

Gal 6:1-2

Matthew 18:15-17



# God's Design for Marriage

Biblical parenting

Biblical parenting requires a biblical marriage

Deal with differences biblically – don't ignore them!

Make sure your highest priorities for your children are spiritual.



# God's Design for Marriage

## Physical Intimacy

This is given as a gift from God

God intends this to be a consistent part of a marriage

Our obedience is an act of worship as in any other area of life.



# God's Design for Marriage

The testimony of a biblical marriage

Unity

Servanthood

A living illustration of sacrificial love

A living illustration of biblical submission



# God's Design for Marriage

The testimony of a biblical marriage

A living guide to Christians who are struggling in their marriage

A testimony to the unsaved of the life change that comes with the Gospel



# God's Design for Marriage

My hopes from this class

You will never lose sight of the importance of growing in your walk with the Lord and in your marriage.

You will help others who are struggling with their marriages.