

A romantic scene of a man and a woman walking away from the camera on a wooden pier. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a warm, golden glow and silhouettes of the couple. The water reflects the light, and a dark treeline is visible in the background.

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Biblical Principles for Dating & Marriage

Session 1
March 16, 2024



Theme:

“Marriage is God’s idea therefore we must follow God’s blueprint for marriage.”



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Outline

I. The Relationship B4 Relationships

II. The Framework for a Biblical Marriage

III. The Purpose of a Biblical Marriage



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The Relationship B4 Relationships (1/2)

1. Who God Is – Creator, Owner, Holy and Righteous Judge
 - Gen. 1:1; Ps. 24:1; Lev. 19:2b; Ps. 7:11
2. Who Man Is – Sinner in need of salvation
 - Rom.3:10; Is. 59:2; Rom. 6:23; Tit. 3:5; 1 John 4:8-10
3. Who Christ Is – The Savior
 - Acts 17:31; Rom. 5:8; 1 Cor. 15:4; 2 Cor. 5:21; Col. 2:9
4. What Must Man Do – Repent and Believe
 - Is. 55:7; Luke 9:23; Rom. 10:9



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The Relationship B4 Relationships (2/2)

The Holy Spirit and the Believer

1. Regenerates (John 3:1-15, 16:8-11; Titus 3:5)
2. Seals the Believer (2 Cor. 1:22; Eph. 1:13; Eph. 4:30)
3. Gives Eternal Life to the Believer (John 3:3-7; Titus 3:5)
4. Baptizes the Believer (1 Cor. 12:13)
5. Enables the Believer to live victoriously over sin (Rom. 6:1-10)
6. Controls / Fills the Believer (Col. 3:16; Eph. 5:18)
7. Gifts the Believer (Rom. 12; 1 Cor. 12; Eph. 4)



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Framework

1. God Installed Marriage at Creation (Mark 10:6a)
2. God Intended for Marriage to be between One Man and One Woman (Mark 10:6b-8)
3. God Intentionally and Sovereignly acts to bring the Man and Woman together (Mark 10:9a)
4. God Instituted Marriage to be Permanent (Mark 10:9b)



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Purpose of a Biblical Marriage (1/2)

1. Reflection (Gen. 1:26-27; Eph. 5:22-24)
 - To reflect His image and to reflect the relationship between Christ and the Church
2. Relation (Gen. 2:18)
 - For companionship
3. Multiplication (Gen. 1:28)
 - For procreation, for raising godly children and for help establishing a new family unit



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Purpose of a Biblical Marriage (2/2)

4. Replication (1 Thess. 4:3; Rom. 8:29; 2 Cor. 3:18; 1 John 3:2)
 - To be like Christ

5. Glorification (1 Cor. 10:31)
 - To bring glory to God



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Purpose of a Biblical Marriage

1. Reflection (Gen. 1:26-27; Eph. 5:22-24)
2. Relation (Gen. 2:18)
3. Multiplication (Gen. 1:28)
4. Replication (1 Thess. 4:3; Rom. 8:29; 2 Cor. 3:18; 1 John 3:2)
5. Glorification (1 Cor. 10:31)



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Countryside Distinctive

We believe marriage is a gift of God's common grace to all mankind as a fundamental building block of society. As the architect of marriage, God alone retains the right to define its constructs and guidelines, and He has done so in His Word.

In accordance with Scripture, we teach that God's design for marriage is a public, formal, and official covenant between one male and one female. God designed the marriage covenant to be a life-long bond, with divorce permitted only in the case of unrepentant sexual sin or of desertion by an unbeliever. Although sexual sins of thought are not justification for divorce, all sexual immorality, both thoughts and behavior, must be taken seriously as a transgression against God.

God intends that the union between two believers be a loving illustration of the relationship between Christ and His church, when carried out in obedience to the Bible and through the enabling power of the Holy Spirit.



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