

LIFE AS GOD INTENDED

Lesson Four

God intends for marriage to be honored.

Hebrews 13:4a Let marriage be held in **HONOR** among all.

Our society and even many in our churches view it as a joke; a ball and chain, tied down, last resort, the fun is over. All this is contrary to God's intention for marriage.

1. Marriage was God's idea.

Genesis 2:18-25 not good for man to be alone

Proverbs 18:22 He who finds a wife finds a good thing; God favors that

Proverbs 12:4 Excellent wife is the crown of her husband

Proverbs 19:14 a prudent wife is from the Lord, a gift

2. God intends for marriage to be our most important human relationship.

Genesis 2:24 LEAVE father and mother and shall cleave to his wife

The two shall become one flesh, a single unit

Matthew 19:4-6 What God has joined together, let no one separate

Deuteronomy 24:5 give happiness to his wife

3. Marriage has differing roles and responsibilities

a. The husband:

Ephesians 5:23 the man is the head of the wife; spiritual lead

Ephesians 5:25 love your wife; just as Christ loved the church, and gave himself up for her

Ephesians 5:28 & 29 love their own wives, nourished and cherishes it

Ephesians 5:33 love his own wife

Colossians 3:19 Husbands love your wife; do not be embittered against them

(Message) take advantage of

(NIV) don't be harsh

(AMP) harsh, bitter or resentful

I Peter 3:7 live with your wife in an understanding way; as a weaker vessel (be tender) grant her honor as a fellow heir (value her)

b. The wife:

Genesis 2:18 I will make him a helper

Ephesians 5:22 wives be subject to your own husbands

v. 24 subject to their husbands in everything

v. 33 that she respect her husband

Colossians 3:18 wives be subject to her husband

I Peter 3:1-6 you wives, be subject to your own husbands

c. To both husbands & wives:

I Peter 3:8-12 **Be harmonious**, learn to get along

Not a contest of wills, but a desire to make marriage a pleasure, following the Lord's guidelines. It is complimentary not competitive.

4. Sex as God intended

Marriage is the **ONLY** context where sex is to happen. No where in Scripture will you see God designed sex outside of marriage.

Three Guidelines for Sex

1. Consecration: sex is set apart for only in marriage Hebrews 13:4b
2. Procreation: sex is for having children Genesis 9:1 be fruitful & multiply
3. Recreation: sex is for pleasure, fun I Corinthians 7:2-5 duty, have sexual relations with your spouse because THEY want to; I Corinthians 7:8 & 9 better to marry than to burn (lust);

The fact of marriage implies sex will happen. Proverbs 5:15-19 be satisfied and exhilarated by your wife

Song of Solomon is a love letter (8 chapter) between married people.

- Eight times “breasts” are mentioned
- Seventeen times “perfume” is mentioned
- Seven times kissing or lips are mentioned
- Thirty-one times “my beloved” is used; terms of endearment
- Fifteen times love is mentioned

The only time God speaks in the book is to instruct in 5:1 Eat, friends, drink and imbibe deeply, O Lovers.