

Understanding God's Plan for Your Marriage

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Study the Scripture passages below and answer the questions *based* on the truths you see in the passage(s). Then discuss them with your spouse or fiancé.

I. God Designed Marriage

Study Genesis 2:18-25.

1. Who originated the idea of marriage? Why?
2. What implications do these truths have for your marriage?

II. God Determined the Purposes for Marriage

Study Genesis 1:27; 2:18, 24; also the terms that describe marriage partners in Proverbs 2:17 and Malachi 2:14.

1. What is the major purpose for marriage as suggested by these verses?
2. What kind of commitment does God want you to make with your spouse? What does this mean for you?
3. What other purposes do you think God might have for marriage (not necessarily listed in the above verses)?

III. God Declared Marriage to Be Permanent

Study Mark 10:1-12; Matthew 19:3-9.

1. What was God's plan for marriage from the beginning?

2. What does this say about the importance of the decision you have already made (if you are married) or are planning to make (if you are engaged or pre-engaged)?

3. Under what circumstances might your marriage someday end?

IV. God Directs Husbands and Wives in Their Respective Roles

Study Ephesians 5:22-33 and 1 Peter 3:1-7.

1. What does God say is the role of a husband?

2. What does God say is the role of a wife? See also *Titus 2:4-5*.

1. Do these verses mean that the husband is superior to the wife? Why or why not? (Recall *Genesis 1:27; 2:24; 1 Peter 3:7; also 3:8*)

4. How do you personally feel about your God-assigned role as a husband or wife?