

God's Plan For Your Marriage



A clear concise study guide

- for pre-marital counsel,
- for marital help, or
- for marital renewal
- for Godly order in your home.

Marriage I - God's Design for the Home

Marriage II - The Role of the Wife

Marriage III - The Role of the Husband

Marriage IV - The Role of ONE FLESH

Marriage V – One Flesh In Communication

Marriage VI – One Flesh In Fidelity

Marriage VII - Our Heritage – Children

Appendix - Worksheets, Vows, Ceremony, Roles Outline

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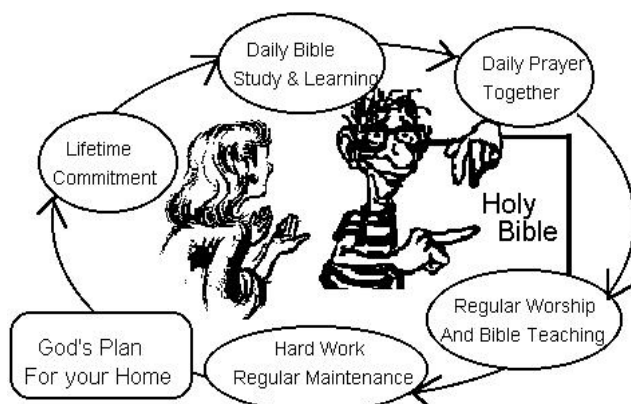
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Revision 2 Added “One Flesh In Fidelity”, under God's design – Brides Veil and Courting Mandate?, under Children – Circumcision and Avoiding Worldly Advice, under Appendix Worksheets, Vows, and Ceremony

Rehearsal.

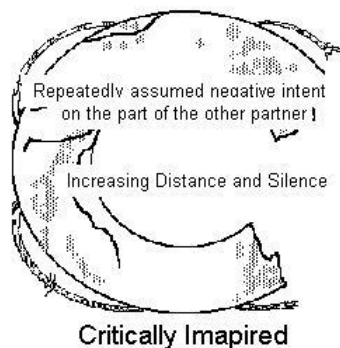
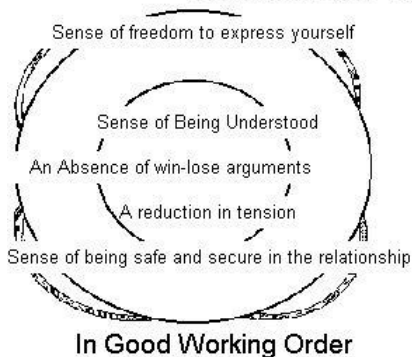


Published by E.G.RicePublishing
via GSBaptistChurch.com
Good Samaritan Baptist Church
54 Main St. Box 99, Dresden, NY 14441

<http://stores.lulu.com/GSBaptistChurch>

Compiled and Edited by Pastor Edward Rice
Cover design and Photographs by Author
Layout by Author

Communication - Lifeline to A Marriage



Marriage I - God's Design for the Home

Memory Verse: Psalm 101:2

*I will behave myself wisely in
a perfect way. O when wilt
thou come unto me? I will
walk within my house with a
perfect heart.*

Daily Bible Readings

| | |
|------|----------------------|
| Sun | Eph 6, Heb 12:7 |
| Mon | Gen 2:18-25 |
| Tue | Heb 13:4, Psalm 68:6 |
| Wed | Matt 19:4-6 |
| Thur | Prov 31 |
| Fri | Eph 5:23-33 |
| Sat | Jos 24:15, Prov 5 |

"We believe that the home and marriage are holy and ordained by God; that in marriage the husband and wife become one flesh and establish a home; that the husband is to be the head of the home, the wife an obedient help meet to the husband and the children are to obey and honor their parents."

The Authority of the Bible **What is the Role of the Bible in My Life?**

What separates Christianity from any "religion" in the world is its claim to an absolute, written authority from God. Having the Word of God is essential to a Christian's growth in grace and knowledge of Jesus Christ. The standards, by which a Christian is to govern his life in every detail, are found in the pages of the Word of God.

This study is to acquaint one with the basics of the Bible and how it relates to their everyday life, so they can begin to understand how God's principles are to guide every facet of their marriage and their daily walk with Jesus Christ. A worthy, and worthwhile task.

I Introduction to the Bible.

It is universally accepted that there are two fundamental sources of human knowledge: reason and experience. Both are essential to the understanding of the world around us. Yet, reason and experience do not answer the most profound and important questions of life. Where did I come from? Why am I

here? Where am I going? Where is there another source of knowledge that carries us beyond the limitations of human reason and experience. The source that answers these three most important questions of life, is the Holy Bible. It has been put in acronym as: **Basic Instruction Before Leaving Earth.**

The revelation of God to man, called the Holy Bible, teaches us that God has revealed Himself and His commandments in Holy Scripture, or sacred writings. In these Scriptures we have direct access to an infinite and personal God who reveals himself as the Self-Existent-One. The Bible says he created all things for His pleasure. It reveals that we are finite and He is infinite. He is a God who has revealed himself to be omnipotent or all powerful, omniscient or all knowing, omnipresent or present everywhere, and immutable or unchanging. We were created to know such a God and his Scriptures are worthy of our continual study.

God created man in his image and likeness, and gave him distinct responsibilities, so that God could commune with man. Man disobeyed God, and rebelled against his Creator. As time passed, humanity distanced itself from God, but he revealed himself more and more, and what was revealed he had recorded in sacred writings called Scripture. The Holy Bible reveals all we know about God, His will, His ways, and His purposes for mankind. The Bible, alone, answers those three questions posed by man. At the completion of The New Testament, God's written revelation was complete. Look at that fact carefully worded in ***Revelation 22:18-19.***

For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book: And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book.

The Scriptures are unique in several ways:

The Bible is a book which is composed of 66 books written by more than forty authors over a period of more than 2,000 years. It has 69 books of the Old Testament, written before God sent his Only Begotten Son as the Messiah, and 27 books of the New Testament, written after Jesus the Christ¹ came to earth. It is totally accurate in its record of history, revelation, and prophecy, the 66 books fitting together as though one man wrote it without one contradiction. The orchestration of the whole Bible is awesome to behold. For example the Bible has 1,118 chapter divisions and the very middle verses of the Bible is Psalms 118:8 "*It is better to trust in the LORD than to put confidence in man.*"; the very middle words are "The LORD", and the presence of all caps indicates this is the very personal name of God.

The purpose of Scripture in life and in marriage.

The Scriptures have been inspired and preserved by God that we might have an inerrant (without error) and infallible (never failing) guide that will bring us to salvation and daily sanctification. Remember that man was created in the image and likeness of God so that he could commune man, and man could commune with God, which is commonly called *fellowship*. While here on this earth man can fulfill God's purposes of fellowship, giving glory to God in every way. The Bible puts it "And thou shalt love the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might." (ref Deut 6:5, 30:6, Joshua 22:5, Psalm 31:23, Matt 22:37, Mark 12:30, and Luke 10:27) That is our purpose in life. That is our purpose in marriage. That is our purpose in our home.

The Scriptures say of themselves in 2Tim 3:16-17:

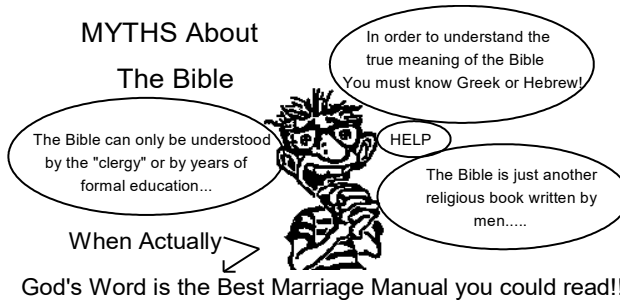
"All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works."

1 "Christ" is Greek for *the anointed one sent from God*, and "Messiah" is the Hebrew/Arabic form for that anointed one.

In this Scripture the teachings of the Bible fall into four distinct purposes. They are profitable for:

- 1) Doctrine = What is right.
- 2) Reproof = What is not right.
- 3) Correction = How to get right.
- 4) Instruction in Righteousness = How to stay right.

Why? "*... that the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works*" (3:17)



Some Myths about the Bible, from the cartoon above, are

- >> MYTH - The Bible is just another religious book written by men.
- >> MYTH - The Bible can only be understood by "clergy" after years of formal education.
- >> MYTH - In order to know the true meaning of the Bible you must know Greek or Hebrew.
- >> TRUTH - God's Word is the best Marriage Manual you could read.
 - >> It is written by God, and He says so.
 - >> It is understandable by all, it only takes His Spirit
 - >> It is perfectly accurately in English, in the King James Bible.
 - >> "That is your interpretation!" does not apply when reading the Holy Bible. Its exact interpretation, word for word, was put into English by 77 unparalleled linguistic scholars over a period of 7 years. They were sponsored, paid, and protected by King James , a King of England, and finished their translation work in 1611 AD. It is the Authorized Translation, the King James Bible.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Reason and experience do not answer the three most important questions in life. What are these three questions?

A. _____

B. _____

C. _____

There is an inerrant source for human knowledge, it is not reason or experience, what is it, and its acronym?

The inspired teachings of Scripture have four major purposes. List them and explain.

A. _____

B. _____

C. _____

D. _____

What three truths debunk the three major myths about the Holy Bible?

A. _____

B. _____

C. _____

The promise of God for life, marriage and home.

The whole premise for the next few lessons on the home, all the promises made, all the instructions given, are from the Word of God, The Holy Bible. In marriage one needs to make a commitment to their mate for life, and a commitment to order their home and their life in accordance to God's instructions. A home can then be a paradise here on earth. These instructions are outlined in the next few lessons. With such a life time commitment, examine some of the promises that God makes:

(Please fill in blanks using only the King James, Authorized Version of the Bible)

Josh 1:7 Only be thou _____ and very _____, that thou mayest observe to do according to _____, which Moses my servant commanded thee: turn not from it to the right hand or to the left, that thou mayest _____ whithersoever thou goest.

8 This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt _____ therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way _____, and then thou shalt have good _____.

Psalms 1:1 _____ is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful.

2 But his delight is in the _____ LORD; and in his law doth he _____ day and night.

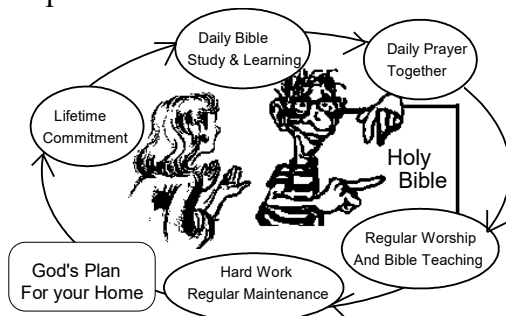
3 And he shall be like a _____ planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall _____.

Matt 7:24 Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and _____, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his _____ upon a rock:

John 13:17 If ye know these things, _____ are ye if ye do them.

There are a myriad of other Scriptures that spell out the promises for following God's plan in your marriage. As you "*Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.*" you can have the peaceful, joyful, happy home that God intends for man.

The key is simple:



The cartoon above shows God's plan for your home; 1) A lifetime commitment, 2) daily Bible study and learning; 3) daily prayer together; 4) Regular Worship and Bible Teaching (in a Bible believing Church) and 5) hard work with regular maintenance.

Marriage is Holy and Ordained of God

It was in the Garden of Eden that God himself planned the idea of marriage. Get a KJV Bible and fill in the blanks in these verses:

Gene 2:18 And the LORD God said, It is not good that the man should be _____; I will make him an _____ for him.

The word '*meet*' is not common in our English, an older dic-

tionary gives an appropriate synonym of "appropriate." Substitute that synonym in the phrase below:

I will make him an help _____ for him.

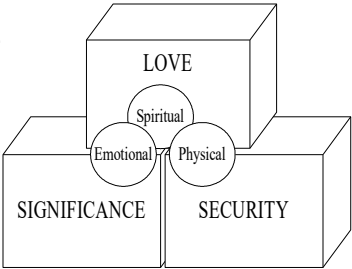
God did not make woman as a help-mate, but as a help-meet.

God made the kind of man who needed a wife. God knew the need of man's heart, soul, and mind, and so God declared it was not goof for man to live without a wife. God made a woman, Eve, because she would fulfill the natural longings and fit in with the natural and normal happy life of Adam. Marriage was ordained by God.

God intended that a marriage union be indivisible, till death do us part. *"What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder."* The sacred marriage vow provides a physical, emotional and spiritual security between a man and a woman that cannot be achieved in any other sort of agreement. That three dimensional security is to permeate the stable home, and makes it the only suitable platform for child rearing. The term 'divorce' is introduced in the law of God only because of the hardness of man's heart. (Mark 10:4-9) It destroys the physical, emotional, and spiritual security in a home and it is never the optimal solution. Matt 19:4-6 is emphatic *"...they twain shall be _____"*. (Matt 19:5) In that light, divorce, being all to common today is against God's precepts. Matthew 19:6 says: *Wherefore they are no more twain, but one flesh. What therefore God hath joined together, let*

_____ put _____.

Examine carefully, then, three Biblical outcomes for, or purposes in, marriage. Consciously understanding these outcomes makes good inroads to produce a marriage that is a taste of paradise one earth.



Why does one marry?

The model here shows three human needs on three different levels, making this "The 3by3 Essentials" for a joyful life. Certainly, the Bible assures us that the Lord Jesus Christ can meet all our needs on all three levels. But God ordained and organized marriage to meet these 3by3 essentials for a man and a woman. Child rearing is intended in a home where these 3by3 essentials thrive without hypocrisy.

The need to love and be loved.

What is True Love? Love is the mental, emotional, and physical, self-less desire to fill the needs of another. Love is NOT a fuzzy way of feeling, NOR is it something you fall into; it is a command.

Mutual love is the selfless concern two people have for each other. There are four kinds of love in the Bible and all four should be found in a functional home. There is the Greek word *eros*, for physical love, *storge*, for parental and family affections, *phillia*, for human affection or friendship, and there is *agape*, for self giving, selfless love, or the purest of love.

This love in marriage must have a depth that reaches through physical, emotional, and then spiritual dimension. Even when this love is unrequited it is to be pure, but when it is reciprocated it can bring unmitigated joy into the marriage.

The need to be significant and to give significance.

What is Significance? One is significant when there is an ongoing concern for where they are at what they are doing, what they are thinking, and what they are feeling. Imagine the loneliness of going through life being significant to no one. Imagine the selfishness of going through life with no one else significant to you.

The 3x3 Essentials

We need to be Loved,

We need to Love.

We need to be Significant,

We need to give Significance.

We need Security,

We need to provide Security.

That is: emotional love,
love on a spiritual plane,
and physical love.

It is significance emotionally,
significance spiritually,
and physically significance.

It is secure emotionally,
secure spiritually,
and secure physically.

Mutual significance has been described as, "Having a significant other, or a soul-mate." There are a myriad ways that one shows physical, emotional and spiritual significance. There are as many ways to neglect significance. Neglected significance evaporates into nothingness.

This significance in marriage must have a depth that reaches through physical, emotional, and then spiritual dimension. Even when this significance is unrequited it is to be pure, but when it is reciprocated it can bring unmitigated joy into the marriage.

The need to be secure and to provide security.

What is Security. In a promise, it is, "I will never leave thee, I will never forsake thee²." And therein, never means never.

God ordains a marriage and a home where a man and a woman leave the security of their father and their mother and cleave together to become one flesh. They, alone, must now provide the genuine security to one another. Physical security is a place to dwell, and physical protection from a hostile world. Emotional security is place to feel, and an emotional protection of those feelings from any hostile environment. Spiritual security is place to be a free spirit, and a spiritual protection of that spirit from the spirit of Godlessness.

This security in marriage must have a depth that reaches through physical, emotional, and then spiritual dimension. These three dimension are secured through the promise, yea the vow, "I will never leave thee, I will never forsake thee." You might attain a common-law marriage without the vow, but you will not attain a Godly marriage and a Godly home without the marriage vow. (See vows in appendix)

2 For those unfamiliar with careful English, "thee" is a first person singular pronoun, and "you " is a first person plural pronoun. The Holy Bible carefully distinguishes between the singular and the plural, and it behooves us to do the same, especially where it concerns marriage. The slovenly English of modernist bibles makes every first person pronoun plural, regardless what the Holy Bible says. Learn your "thees and thous", it is worth the effort for the exactness of God's Holy Words.

A Brides Veil³

Did you know? The Jewish custom of veiling the bride's head or face originated with Rebekah, who covered her face when meeting Isaac for the first time. Not only does the veil symbolize the bride's reverence and subjection to her husband, Jewish tradition tells us that a message is being given. When the groom accepts his bride as veiled he is telling her that he is not marrying her for her external beauty but for the beauty within her she will never lose.

Arranged Marriages? Mandated Courtships?⁴

The Bible Explored: When studying the Scriptures, it is vital that we discern between narrative and mandate. The Bible is a book of history as well as doctrine, and although every word is given for our learning, not every detail is intended as a pattern that we must follow. The context of any passage offers a clear distinction between a direct command and a simple retelling of events.

In the days of Abraham, arranged marriages were common. Moreover, in this particular case, Abraham's approach to finding a wife for his son was necessary, lest future generations turn away from the Lord and the covenant He had established with them. The preservation of Abraham's lineage – both morally and genetically – was of utmost concern, since out of his line would come the Messiah. This narrative, however, should not be interpreted as the exclusive pattern by which men and women may enter into marriage. In fact, the commands in Scripture regarding marriage are quite simple, stopping well short of mandating a particular courtship structure.

3 “Bible First!, Vol 5, Lesson 15 – Isaac and his family” Euro Team Outreach Inc. www.euroteamoutreach.org, 37

4 Ibid.

Marriage II - The Role of the Wife

Memory Verse: Eph 5:22-24 *Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord. 23 For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body. 24 Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in every thing.*

Daily Bible Readings

| | |
|------|---------------|
| Sun | Gen 3:1-16 |
| Mon | Numbers 30 |
| Tue | Psalms 128 |
| Wed | Prov 5:15-21 |
| Thur | Song 1:1-2:17 |
| Fri | Rom 7:1-6 |
| Sat | Song 3:1-4:16 |

"We believe that the home and marriage is holy and ordained by God; that in marriage the husband and wife become one flesh and establish a home; that the husband is to be the head of the home, the wife an appropriate help to the husband and the children are to obey and honor their parents."

God's order in the Home, - God's role for the Woman

God begins his instructions on marriage with instructions to the wife. In God's creation account the woman is the completer of man. The success or failure of a home hinges on how well the wife fills that role of completer. Ladies, please examine this lesson carefully, and Gentlemen, you need to be familiar with this lesson because God holds you responsible for the leadership in every aspect of your home.

This study is to acquaint you with the basics of the role of the woman in God's creation, in accordance with God's Word. It conflicts with what our society (especially our media) has pumped into our heads since our birth, so clear your mind and pay particularly close attention to the Scriptures for this study.

Role of a Woman in Creation

(Please fill in blanks using only the King James, Authorized Version of the Bible)

Gene 2:18 *And the LORD God said, It is _____
_____ that the man should be alone; I will make
him an _____ for him.*

In the previous lesson we explored an appropriate synonym for "meet." Write it in the sentence below: The woman is to be an _____ help to the man.

The Scripture continues:

20 And Adam gave names to all cattle, and to the fowl of the air, and to every beast of the field; but for Adam there was

*_____ an _____
_____ for him.*

21 And the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam, and he slept: and he took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh instead thereof; 22 And the rib, which the LORD God had taken from man, made he a woman, and brought her unto the man.

23 And Adam said, This is now bone of my bones, and _____ of my _____: she shall be called _____, because she was taken out of Man.

24 Therefore shall a man _____ his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one _____. 25 And they were both naked, the man and his wife, and were not ashamed.

The woman was made for man. Literally as a completer of man, or as an appropriate help for the man. Consequently a woman will find fulfillment and completion when she fills the role, and accomplishes the purpose for which God made her. A woman filling the role that God made her for will find complete fulfillment and peace that can be found in no other way. A woman may say that this kind of submission to a man is not in her nature, and she would be correct. Man (mankind) has a fallen nature and does not naturally do what God intended for the creature made in God's image and likeness.. The age old question here is "Do you want to simply do what is in your nature, or do you want to follow God's plan for your life, and your home? " The two do not naturally line up. When God's plan goes counter to our nature and contrary to the world's advice, it is all the more important to trust and obey.

Wives be Subject to Husbands

When God gives orders to husbands and wives about their

treatment of each other in the Bible, He speaks to wives first then to husbands. When He commands fathers and children about their duties to each other, He commands children first, then fathers. He commands servants first, then masters; subjects first then rulers. God leaves no room for the excuses of the wife who does not want to obey her husband, or the children who will not obey their father. Eph 5:22 is the heart of this teaching, which is repeated several times throughout Scriptures.

Wives, _____ yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord.

Since this word is often ugly in our society, it may be helpful to write in the margin of your Bible:

Submission is the overwhelming consideration of the needs of others.

Note also that Christians are to submit one to another. (vr.21)

A woman begins down a road of rebellion in the home by first finding several excuses to disregard God's command. The home has a leader and its subjects. The Husband is appointed by God, as that ruler, the wife is to be subject to her husband.

People always have plausible excuses for not doing right. Women give many reasons for not being subject to their husbands as God commands. They are excuses, whereby we call God's plan, and God's Holy Word, untrue or ineffective.

The Bible and the Role of the Woman.

The Bible is quite emphatic about the role of the woman. This emphasis is applied collaterally in the home, in the church and in the society. The rebellion against God's authority is exposed collaterally with rebellion in the home, rebellion in the church, and rebellion in society.

Comprehending God's emphasis on the role of the woman in the home requires that we see it universally applicable in the church and in the Godly society.

God's role for woman is emphasized in, and illustrated in three particular commands of God. Woman are not to lead in public prayer. The letter to Timothy, explaining how to behave in the Church (1Tim 3:15) is very clear on this point.

Leadership in prayer is for men not women. "I will therefore men (males) pray everywhere, lifting up holy hands without wrath and doubting. In like manner also, that women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with shamefacedness and sobriety; not with embroidered hair, or gold, or pearls or costly array; but which becometh woman professing Godliness) with good works" (1Tim 2:8).

The phrase "in like manner" does not connect the woman's role to leading in public prayer, it connects the woman's modest apparel, shamefacedness and sobriety to doing it "without wrath and doubting." Also often taken out of context from this text is the embroidered hair, gold and pearls. This Scripture is about the kind of attitude a woman professing Godliness should have. It has been used by some to forbid women from wearing makeup or jewelry. Such a legalistic stance gives little thought to the actual context of this command. The context teaches who should and should not be leading in prayer.

Secondly, women should not be in a position to teach a man. Again this letter to Timothy is emphatic. "Let the woman learn in silence with all subjection. But I suffer not a woman to teach, nor usurp authority over a man, but to be in silence" (1Tim 2:11-12). Again, this Scripture might easily be taken out of context. The context clarifies who is to be doing the teaching. The scoffer dismisses this whole text because a woman keeping silence is beyond anything they could imagine. Women often roll their eyes when this Scripture is read because they refuse to acknowledge the context and its truth. Women should not teach men, the Holy Bible says so very emphatically.

Pause here to understand God's threefold reasoning behind these two commands. "For Adam was first formed, then Eve" (2:13). God first resorts back to his purpose in creation. The woman was created to be an appropriate help and

companion to the man. "And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived was in the transgression" (2:14). The woman is a whole different emotional and hormonal package than the man. One is built for confrontational leadership decisions. One is built for non-confrontational compromised solution finding, and she is called the weaker vessel. (1Pet 3:7) It is not politically correct to say any of that but is is certainly Biblically correct. You must choose which correctness you will pursue, and there is not a non-confrontational compromised solution between the two.

The threefold in the chord of God's reasoning, reasoning which refuses women from leading men in prayer and in teaching men in class, is found in the next verse. "Notwithstanding she shall be saved in childbearing, if they continue in faith and charity and holiness with sobriety" (2:15). Being "saved" in this verse has nothing to do with a soul's salvation. In the Holy Bible soul salvation is only done by grace through faith; not of works (Eph 2:8-9), when we "confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him (the Lord Jesus Christ) from the dead" (Rom 10:9). then, and only then, can one have soul salvation. This verse in the letter to Timothy is referencing where the woman's greatest value is, what her function in life is, and what her emotional and physiological function was designed to do. A woman was designed for motherhood. A woman, who will accept that role by faith and charity, and holiness with sobriety, has her perfected place, knows her place, and stays in the role for which God created her.

When God revealed to Joshua, his role for his life, he said, "This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success" (Joshua 1:8). This is the woman's role as defined by God in His Holy Word. Submission to that role will bring posterity and good success. Rebellion against it is the norm for our society, and unfortunately for our church leaders. Choosing it for your home will bring God's blessing.

The Bible further clarifies that the woman should not prophesy. Prophesying, in the Bible, is not foretelling the future. Prophesying is the receipt and delivery of a message from the Lord. Today, anyone who can read and has God's sixty six books of completed revelation, has received a message from the Lord. Set aside the shenanigans of Benny Hin, Oral Roberts, Charles Taze Russel, and Joseph Smith, and recognize them as charlatans who claim to receive extra-Biblical revelations. Those who would take a Bible and proclaim "Thus saith the Lord," are prophesying. And according to the Word of God, women are refused that position.

The Church at Corinth was having problems with this prophesying issue. They did not yet have the 27 books of the New Testament Scripture and in Paul's letter of reproof women were forbidden to prophesy or to speak in tongues. "Let your women keep silence in the churches; for it is not permitted unto them to speak; but they are commanded to be under obedience, as also saith the law" (1Cor 14:34) This whole discourse on prophesying, and the woman's role, begins back in chapter eleven, but here it concludes very concisely, "And if they (women who wish to prophesy) will learn anything, let them speak to their husbands at home: for it is a shame for women to speak in the Church" (14:35). This Scripture is dogmatic, and the principle that women are to know their position, is equally dogmatic. "But I would have you to know, that the head of every man is Christ; and the head of the woman is the man; and the head of Christ is God" (11:3).

Many think this Scripture in 1Cor 11, is about whether a woman should wear a head covering in Church. It is not. It is about whether we will recognize God's plan and order in life. The woman is not to be the leader, she is not to prophesy, she is not to lead in prayer, and she is not to teach men. These three commands of God are justified in that 1) Adam was first formed, then Eve, 2) Adam was not deceived, the woman was, 3) the head of the woman is man (male), and 4) the woman has the physical, psychological, and emotional character for mothering, not for leadership.

Those who respond to these scriptures with the

unbelievers cliché, "That is just your interpretation" are simply positioning themselves to reject God's role for the woman and press toward the more rebellious "woman libber's" position. Those who acknowledge the truths of these Scriptures, but then contend that it just doesn't work for them, need to acknowledge Christ's advice, "If ye⁵ know these things, happy are ye if ye do them" (John 13:17). There are also many who acknowledge these truths and pretend to abide by them, but their heart is not in it. Such are wolves in sheep's clothing. And wolves in sheep's clothing, especially when they live in the Church parsonage, do appreciable harm to the cause of Christ.

A woman who will acknowledge this as her role and goal for her life, "if they continue in faith and charity and holiness with sobriety," can indeed have all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ" (Eph 1:3). Marriage and home are meant to be a taste of paradise on Earth. A wife who takes up God's will and calling for her life is an essential first step in achieving that paradise.

One Role in Home, Church, and Society

God does not have three sets of separate roles for the creatures made in his image and likeness, one for the home, one for the Church and one for society. God's rules apply equally in the Christian house, the Church house, and the commercial house of business, and the White House of government. Where one has an ability to sway the world back to God's ways they should. The ways and commands of Christ are rejected by the world, yea the world is in an absolute rebellion against them, they actively hate them, and Him. Our Lord Jesus said it would be that way. Sadly, it is the same in the "Christian Church" so called. A "Church" that refuses to acknowledge and adopt the Bible truths about the role of women is to be labeled "apostate", and a believer is to follow Christ's command to "come out from among them and be ye

5 Do not be afraid of the "ye"s in the Holy Bible. They are simply the first person plural pronoun differentiated from the first person singular pronoun "thee."

separate" (2Cor 6:17). When pressed by society to work with or for the woman which are errantly put into leadership, a believer must make a decision. The decision is highlighted by Solomon between Proverbs 26:4 and 26:5. If you cannot remain in the situation and uphold Romans 12:18, "If it be possible, as much as little in you, live peaceably with all men." If you are becoming a belligerent, hard to work with, "I am right and you are wrong", pompous idiot, you should repent, or leave and live where you can put on Christ and be a Christian. There is no singular right answer that fits every situation. In the military I have worked with and for women who were just ignorant of everything Godly, women who were pompous and ungodly, and women who knew God's role for them and were, as best as they were able, in a military leadership role, pretending to conform. You can be the salt of the earth in the worst of the world. Know and purpose that you will.

The First Years of Forever

In his book "The First Years of Forever", Dr. Ed Wheat outlines these scriptural areas of "How to Love your husband."

A. In Genesis you are "**His Help Meet**". your Husbands self confidence rests in your hands for safe keeping. See Genesis 2:18-22

B. In Proverbs 31:10-31, "**His Trusted Partner**." These 22 verses start with a different letter of the Hebrew alphabet and contain vast wisdom for a wife.

Prov 31:10 Who can find a _____ woman? for her price is far above rubies. 11 The heart of her husband doth _____ in her, so that he shall have no need of spoil. 12 She will do _____ and not evil all the days of her life. 25 Strength and honour are her clothing; and she shall rejoice in time to come. 26 She openeth her mouth with _____; and in her tongue is the law of _____ . 27 She looketh well to the _____ of her household, and eateth not the bread of idleness. 28 Her children arise up, and call her blessed; her

husband also, and he _____ her.

C. In the Song of Solomon **"His Darling, His Love"**

Observe the example of the Shulamite. If you would learn how to fuel the fires of an ongoing love affair with your husband, study her behavior and responses. Analyze them. You will find that her husband's love making thrilled her, and she let him know it" She focuses her eyes and conversation on him when they were together, complimenting his appearance, expressing appreciation for his skillful lovemaking, and always communicating her high respect for him as a man.

D. In 1 Timothy **"The Guide of His Household"**

1Tim 5:14 I will therefore that the younger women marry, bear children, _____ the _____, give none occasion to the adversary to speak reproachfully.

E. In Titus **"His Loving Wife"** Titus 2:4 *That they may teach the young women to be _____, to _____ their husbands, to love their children, 5 To be _____, _____, keepers at home, good, _____ to their own husbands, that the word of God be not blasphemed.*

F. In Ephesians **"His Submissive Wife"** Eph 5:22 *Wives, _____ yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord. 3 For the husband is the _____ of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body.*

G. In 1 Peter **"His Beautiful Wife"** *1Pet 3:1 Likewise, ye wives, be in _____ to your own husbands; that, if any obey not the word, they also may without the word be won by the conversation of the wives; 2 While they behold your chaste _____ coupled with fear. 3 Whose adorning*

let it not be that _____ adorning of plaiting the hair, and of wearing of gold, or of putting on of _____; 4 But let it be the _____ man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, even the ornament of a _____ and _____ spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price. 5 For after this manner in the old time the holy women also, who trusted in God, adorned themselves, being in subjection unto their own husbands: 6 Even as Sara obeyed Abraham, calling him _____: whose daughters ye are, as long as ye do well, and are not afraid with any amazement.

God Will Bless You as You follow His Plan

A Bold Word about Dress and Modesty

There was a time, just a few years ago, when preaching against worldly dress was heard from fundamentalist and independent Baptist pulpits across the land. Some went extreme and attempted to enforce some overbearing rules about women and pants. Today, any kind of preaching about clothing has become an oddity, and the pants issue is an open embarrassment. Justly so. The resistance of the rock & roll culture to such preaching is so pervasive that many pastors have decided to ignore matters of dress altogether. To do so, however, is to ignore the fact that clothing is a language, and it communicates.

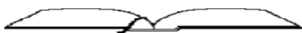
Two things might be communicated by improper dress and appearance. One must be careful about modesty, and one must be careful about gender.

In the book *How to Marry the Man of Your Choice* by Margaret Kent (New York: Warner Books, 1987), the secular

author instructs women how to use clothing to "manipulate men." She recommends body hugging skirts and revealing blouses: "Don't let the power of clothing pass you by, for it can be a major asset in attracting men. ... stir his sexual imagination without satisfying his curiosity about your body... To avoid being a nerd", Kent continues, "wear clothing that follows the natural form of your body" (pp. 29, 32, 33). Kent observes that "shirt-type blouses with buttons on the front" send a signal of "easy access" (p. 35). As for pants on women, the author states that "jeans are likely to get a positive response because they are snug and outline the body; they also represent casualness" (p. 36). This reminds us that clothes can be be inherently immodest. The obvious purpose for these fashion is to tease men.

Gender confounding is also a major emphasis of the world's rebellion against God's commandments. Women dressing like men is the emphasis. Men dressing like women is an effeminate issue which is not as prominent in society, at least not while testosterone levels are maintained. But the drive for women wearing pants, pant suits, men's shirts, ties, and butch hair is loud and brazen.

Marriage III - The Role of the Husband



Memory Verse: *1Pet 3:7 Likewise, ye husbands, dwell with them according to knowledge, giving honour unto the wife, as unto the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life; that your prayers be not hindered.*

Daily Bible Readings

| | |
|------|-----------|
| Sun | Genesis 2 |
| Mon | Gen 3 |
| Tue | Titus 3 |
| Wed | Eph 5 |
| Thur | Prov 5 |
| Fri | Col 3 |
| Sat | Josh 1 |

This study is to acquaint you with the basics of the responsibilities of the husband in God's creation and plan for the home in accordance with God's word. If conflicts with what our society (especially our media) has pumped into our heads since our birth, so clear your mind and pay particular attention to the Scriptures used.

The Husband The Head of The Home

Let's begin in the book of beginnings, Genesis. Read Genesis 2:15-18 and complete these 4 easy questions:

(Please fill in blanks using only the King James, Authorized Version of the Bible)

- 1) Why did God put man in this world, particularly in the Garden of Eden, (vr 15) *to* _____ *it and to* _____ *it.*
- 2) When God laid out the rules did he give them to the man or the woman? (vr 16) "*And the LORD God commanded* _____ *, saying,....*"
- 3) What was the penalty for disobeying God? (vr 17) "*for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt* _____ *.*
- 4) In God's perfect creation what was the first 'not good' thing that is mentioned? (vr 18) "*And the LORD God said, It is* _____ *that the* _____

_____ ; *I will make him an help*
_____ *for him.*

Notice now God's curse because of sin and God's provision for life under the curse. Let's look at four parts of this curse and how Christ is our freedom from its effects.

The curses are found in Gen 3:9-24. In verse 17 God said
Thou shalt not eat of it: _____ is the ground for thy
sake; in _____ shalt thou eat of it _____
_____ *of thy life;* But in Christ Jesus, we
can have *Joy unspeakable and full of Glory.* In Curse sorrow,
In Christ Joy. In verse 19 God said "*In the _____ of*
thy _____ shalt thou eat bread, But in
Christ a hard days work brings peace and contentment and 1
Cor 15:58 says *be ye steadfast, unmoveable, always*
_____ *in the _____ of the Lord,*
forasmuch as ye know that your _____ is not in
vain in the Lord. In verse 19 we will "*return unto the*
_____ *; for out of it wast thou taken:.* But in Christ
look at what it says in 1 Cor 15:55 *O death, where is thy*
_____ *? O grave, where is thy _____ ?* 56
The sting of death is _____ ; and the strength of sin is the
law.

57 But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through
our Lord Jesus Christ.

So Likewise is there a curse for a woman in verse 16 and it is
thy _____ shall be to thy husband, and he shall
_____ *over thee.*

Likewise Christ does not take us out of this curse but gives
grace that our living in it can bring greater peace and
contentment. To try to over-rule it, to ignore it, or to disprove
this curse is equivalent to trying to over-rule the sorrow in this

world, or ignore mans need to work for life, or remove death from this world. No,... for a man to rule in the marriage is God's plan for this life, as plainly as man must work, sorrow and die. Or society strives to disprove all four of these curses, God's word teaches us instead to live wisely considering each one.

Is it your choice to follow this plan of God's Word?

The Bible clearly and prominently declares that the husband is to be the head of the home. For the husband is the _____ of the wife, even as Christ is the _____ of the Church. (Eph 5:22-23)

To say that this teaching is now old-fashioned and untrue, to day that men and women are equal in the home, is to say that you know more than the God of the Bible.

In the home the man is the image of God. 1Cor 11:7 says *For a man indeed ought not to cover his head, forasmuch as he is the _____ and _____ of God: but the woman is the _____ of the man.*

The man is to rule in the home. A bishop or pastor is to be an example to us and I Tim 3:4,5 says he is to be *"One that _____ his own house, having his children in _____ with all gravity.* How the husband rules his home can consume hours of discussion, but God in Eph 5:25 intends that it be with a divine _____. As seen here *'Husbands, _____, even as Christ also loved the church, vr 28 says So ought men to _____ their _____ as their own _____.* In Colo 3:19 he adds *and be not _____ against them.*

1Pet 3:7 tells husbands to *dwelt with them according to knowledge, giving _____ unto the wife, as unto the*

_____ vessel, Note that love here, is not treated as something you feel, not something we fall into or fall out of , it is a command of God.

God tells the wife to be subject to the husband,... woe be to the man that shirks his responsibility of love and leadership after God has so emphatically commanded your wife to be your follower.

The Husband the Wisdom of the Home.

In 1 Pet 3:7 we see that Husbands are to do several things.

Note: *Likewise ye husbands, _____ with them.*

Listen, that means you should hang around the wife, not the 'guy', not the fishing hole or hunting camp, DWELL with the wife. Look further,... *ye husbands dwell with them according to _____*. Wow, not only are you to hang around your wife,

you are to have some UNDERSTANDING of her. How many wives have said of their husbands "You don't understand me!" I want you to know she is right. It takes effort to understand and be understanding. Buy or borrow and then read the book by Dr. Dobson, *What Wives Wish Their Husbands Know About Women.* It can help you a lot in this area because (if you have not yet noticed) **women think and act different than men do.** (Note that in general Dr. Dobson has a dangerous mixture of some Bible and some psychology (man's wisdom). Use great caution for any Biblical doctrines he totes outside of his marriage council and child rearing advice, he is not Baptist.

Continuing in verse 7 notice that the husband is to be *giving _____ unto the wife, as unto the _____ vessel*, Get a dictionary and define "HONOR"

DEF _____

Give four synonyms for RESPECT _____

Not only are you to honor her as the weaker vessel, but *as being _____ together of the grace of _____*; Thus recognize that before God, as an heir of eternal life, she is your equal. She needs to be honored as a fellow heir before God.

Now to ignore this instruction is to destroy your fellowship with God, and cause that *your prayers ARE hindered*. Read the rest of this chapter (1Peter 3) it deals with unity, compassion, love vr 8, with fighting vr 9, prayers heard vr 12, long-suffering vr 14, sanctification vr 15, and a good conscience vr 16. All these have a direct application in your wisdom as a Husband, the head and leader of the home.

The Husband the Example of the Home

In Titus 2 Paul is exhorting Titus to speak things which become sound doctrine. He then lists things for 'matured' men to have in their behavior. Get your dictionary so you capture the exact meaning of each of these behavior patterns you are to have as a husband. Titus 2:2 *That the aged men be sober, grave, temperate, sound in faith, in charity, in patience.*

DEFINE:

sober, _____

grave, _____

temperate, _____

sound in faith, _____

sound in charity, _____

sound in patience. _____

The Husband, The Spiritual Leader in the Home and In the Church

Look at 1Cor 14:29-35 and lets draw some conclusions about this portion of Scripture. First look at vr 29 and get the subject

of this section firmly in your mind. It says *Let the _____ speak two or three, and let the other judge.*
1Cor 14:29 We need to understand that a prophet is one who is told something by God, (today, only from His Word) and then stands and says "thus saith the Lord". In the Word of God, a prophet is one who gets instruction from God, and then says, per God's bidding, "Thus Saith The Lord". Many times they were given future events that God would do and were told to tell others about them, but a prophet is still only one that has a communication from God, and then communicates that to others. Now look at verse 34.

1Cor 14:34 Let your women keep silence in the churches: for it is not permitted unto them to speak; but they are commanded to be under obedience, as also saith the law. 35 And if they will learn any thing, let them ask their husbands at home: for it is a shame for women to speak in the church.

Are women to be standing up and declaring "Thus Saith the Lord?" _____
If the Bible is true and comes from God, then Women are not to prophecy!

Now look at verse 35. Who is to teach what the Lord has said in the home? _____

Husband you are to be the spiritual teacher, the spiritual councilor, the spiritual adviser in the home! May God empower you to fill the role that God has for you. Study the principle in Numbers 30:13-15. If the husband remains silent in the home, or allows the wife to rule the home (against God's direction), or if he does not provide the spiritual leadership in the home, Who does God hold responsible?

Three Essential Characteristics of a Leader, A Husband

You need to develop, build, practice and hone these three characteristics if you will be a leader.

Have the **Higher Purpose, a Vision, the Goals** (for your home)

Have an **Ability to Move, Motivate, and Provide**

Direction (to people)

Have an **Ability to fulfill the needs in others.**

Trying to lead anything (much less a home) without any one of these characteristics will end in failure. Do you have these three? Do you know where to get them? (see James 1:5)

Husband Led Family Devotion Time

The Christian home is the most important institution in the world. God places the home first -- in time as well as in importance. It is the foundation upon which all other institutions are built; upon it the church and state will either stand or fall. What the homes are, the churches and schools are -- and the government will be. The home has the first responsibility' its influence is the greatest force in the life of a child. However, a Christian home is like a Christian teacher. Just because a person is a Christian and a teacher, this does not make him a Christian teacher. SO a home with people who profess to be Christians does not make it truly a Christian home. Eighty-five percent of evangelical Christians families do not regularly have family devotions on a regular basis. A Christian home should regularly have a family altar time. This is the time when the family gets together to read the Bible and pray. Husband, it is your responsibility to lead in a family devotional time with three characteristics -- **PARENT LED, -- PRACTICALLY PLANNED -- and PURPOSEFUL.**

Parent Led: The father is the protector , the provider, and the presider in the Christian home. The mother is to support the spiritual leadership of the husband. She is the vice president of the family corporation. Gen 18:19, Psalm 78:5, Eph 6, Gen 7:7. Josh 24:15, 1Sam 2:17-25,4:11,17,8:1-3, 2Sam 18:33.

Practically Planned: Use these concepts, Bible Centered, Adapted to needs of the family, varying order and participants, specified time for the devotions, create a taste for spiritual things as per Proverbs "Raise up a child in the way he should go." . 2Tim 3:16-17, Eph 5:18, Col 3:15-17

Purposeful: 1) Salvation 2) Cleansed and kept from sin, 3) Growth, 4) Instruction continually, 5) Commendable Children (learn to sit and pay attention!) 6) Discernment 7) Magnify the Lord.

God Bless you as a Husband and Grant you the Wisdom for the Role.

Marriage IV - The Role of ONE FLESH

Memory Verse:

Proverbs 5:15

Drink waters out of thine own cistern, and running waters out of thine own well.

Daily Bible Readings

Sun Proverbs 5

Mon 1 Cor 6

Tue 1 Cor 7

Wed 1Thes 4

Thur Mal 2

Fri Matt 5:31-32

Sat Matt 19:1-12

This study is to acquaint you with three essentials for you and your spouse to be one flesh. The guidelines comes from principles taught in God's Word, principles for successful living, and apply to an even higher degree if two people are to be together on a daily basis.

FAITHFULNESS The First Essential

Clearly, and emphatically in God's plan for your marriage, you are expected and commanded to be forever and completely faithful to your mate "*Until death*" parts you. To be unfaithful sexually, to your marriage vows, and to God's direction not only removes God's blessing from your marriage, but clearly brings God's curse upon it.

(Please fill in blanks using only the King James, Authorized Version of the Bible)

What four things does Proverb 5:3-5 promise to the unfaithful?

Prov 5:3 For the lips of a strange woman drop as an honeycomb, and her mouth is smoother than oil: 4 But her end is _____ as _____, _____ as a _____.

5 Her feet go down to _____; her steps take hold on _____.

Look carefully at Pro 5:15-21. Why should we NOT *embrace the bosom of a stranger*?

Prov 5:15 Drink waters out of thine own cistern, and running waters out of thine own well. 16 Let thy fountains be dispersed abroad, and rivers of waters in the streets. 17 Let them be

only thine own, and not strangers' with thee. 18 Let thy fountain be blessed: and rejoice with the wife of thy youth. 19 Let her be as the loving hind and pleasant roe; let her breasts satisfy thee at all times; and be thou ravished always with her love.

20 And why wilt thou, my son, be ravished with a strange woman, and embrace the bosom of a stranger?

21 For the ways of _____ are before the eyes of the _____, and he _____ all his goings.

Read 1 Cor 6:15-20. Notice that our bodies are not to be part of whoredom because : *your bodies are the _____ of Christ? shall I then take the members of Christ, and make them the _____ of an harlot? God forbid.*

Fornication, (any sex outside of marriage) is a sin with inward consequence as well as outward consequence, ..."Flee fornication. Every sin that a man doeth is without the body; but he that committeth fornication sinneth _____ body.

Read 1 Cor 7:1-5. According to this passage husband and wives are not to withhold sex from the other. This is established in order to _____ fornication, let every man have his own wife, and let every woman have her own husband.

Being unfaithful sexually is warned against over and over in Paul's epistles to the believers in the Churches. It is the most prevalent sin. It is the most consequential sin. It is the sin with the most warnings. Purpose in your marriage that it will not once be named among you. Nobody falls into this sin, it is done on purpose. It is never something that cannot be helped! It is never something that just happened! Keep its effects in your conscience, yes it can happen to you. And it is never without life changing consequences.

*Eph 5:3 But _____, and all _____, or
_____, let it not be once named among
you, as becometh saints;*

*1The 4:3 For this is the will of God, even your sanctification,
that ye should abstain from _____: 4 That every
one of you should know how to _____ his
_____ in sanctification and honour;*

Keep your COVENANT! In Mal 2:11-16 Judah is warned about worshiping other gods, and such is likened to adultery towards a wife (one reason that God hates and swiftly judges adultery is because of this similitude.) Look at verse 14: *Mal 2:14 Yet ye say, Wherefore? Because the LORD hath been witness between thee and the wife of thy youth, against whom thou hast dealt*

*treacherously: yet is she thy _____, and
the wife of thy _____.*

Divorce in the Bible

There was such a practice, however, Christ intends that divorce not even be considered an option for a Christian home. Matt 5:31 *It hath been said, Whosoever shall put away his wife, let him give her a writing of divorcement: But I say unto you, That whosoever shall put away his wife, saving for the cause of fornication, causeth her to commit*

*_____ : and whosoever shall marry her the is
divorced committeth _____.* Read carefully Matt 19:1-12 and Mar 10:1-12

FORGIVENESS: The Second Essential

Dr. Ed Wheat writes "Marriage becomes a series of surprises for most of us, and one of them is how frequently we need to forgive and be forgiven Faithfulness may be the first essential

of a love filled marriage but even the best relationship cannot remain intact for long without FORGIVENESS: the second essential of marriage." Look at a few pointers for keeping you forgiveness not only present but running at the appropriate depth in your marriage.

Def:FORGIVE _____

*Eph 4:32 And be ye _____ one to another,
_____, _____ one _____,
even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you.*

What two attitudes should accompany forgiveness?

Notice from God's word that forgiveness is a promise: Jer
31:34 ... *saith the LORD: for I will
forgive their iniquity, and I will _____ their sin no
more.*

When you have truly forgiven you will **Remember their sin no more**. Too often, down the road often in a battle, a mate will bring up a previous offense as a war weapon, often in a vicious way. When that happens you know that there was not a Biblical forgiveness for that offense. This type of true forgiveness can only occur if you have a new nature born inside of you See Col 3.

Here are Four excellent steps to forgiveness.

1. Choose with your free will to forgive.
2. Make the promise to life the burden of guilt from the person as far as the wrong against you is concerned. Remember the person's sin no more - never mentioning it again to the person, to others, or to yourself, even by innuendo.
3. Seal it with your behavior, demonstrating love in suitable ways with tenderhearted kindness, and doing what the Bible shows you to be right in the situation.
4. Trust God to allow you to forget and to renew your mind with new attitudes.

What happens when you will not forgive?

1. If you hold on to your resentments, they will turn to bitterness. As a result, your life will be poisoned, and others lives, too *Heb 12:15 Looking diligently lest any man fail of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up trouble you, and thereby many be defiled;*
2. By refusing to release the burden of the other person's wrong against you and choosing to carry that burden yourself, you will become crippled in the living of your life. *Heb 12:13 And make straight paths for your feet, lest that which is lame be turned out of the way; but let it rather be healed. 14 Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord:*
3. If you are not willing to forgive, (and forget), there is no way you can expect to walk in personal fellowship with God. *Matt 18:35 So likewise shall my heavenly Father do also unto you, if ye from your hearts forgive not every one his brother their trespasses.*

What do I do when it seems impossible to forgive?

1. God never asks His children to do anything that He does not provide both the instructions for, and the strength to accomplish.
2. You do not have to be controlled by your feelings and you are not the helpless prisoner of your past. *John 8:32 And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free. . . .36 If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed.*
3. Jesus Christ has special deliverance and healing for you if you have been bruised and wounded by the sins of your mate - or anyone else - against you. *Luke 4:18 The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised,*

Do we have to forgive everything?

Sometimes people say "I can forgive everything but *'that'!* Is there any sin that you can't be expected to forgive? The answer is that God is not selective with us. When He forgives us in Christ, He **forgives everything**. Eph 4:32 *And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you.*

Forgiveness in your love relationship.

Here is how forgiveness can take its place in your love relationship, soothing the irritations and healing the hurts, which occur even between two people who love each other very much, and, afterward, restoring your sense of oneness.

1. Make a habit of forgiving and never keep count.
2. Settle your accounts quickly. If you cannot kiss your mate and say "I love you" before going to sleep, it is best to work on the conflict until it is reasonably resolved. Eph 4:26 *Be ye angry, and sin not: let not the sun go down upon your wrath:*
3. Remember that forgiveness always includes the idea of restoration and a new start.

Communication : The Third Essential

The third essential for your surviving as one flesh with your spouse is communication. This is such an important can complex essential that we will take the whole next lesson to cover some of it's basics.

Lets review some differences between men and women.

Men and women differ in every cell of their bodies. This difference in the *chromosome combinations* is the basic cause of development into male or female as the case may be.

Women have greater constitutional vitality, perhaps because of this chromosome difference. *Normally women outlive men by 3 or 4 years* in the US. They differ in skeletal structure.

Women have a *shorter head, broader face, less chin, shorter legs and longer trunk*. There are also internal differences.

Women have a larger *stomach, kidney liver, appendix, yet smaller lungs*. In bodily functions, women have several important ones totally lacking in men: *menstruation*,

pregnancy and lactation. Women's hormones are different and more numerous than men's. These hormonal differences influence behavior and feelings.

The thyroid gland behaves differently in the two sexes. Women's thyroid is *larger and more active*. Consequently, it enlarges during pregnancy and during menstruation; it makes her more prone to goiter, provides resistance to cold, is associated with the smooth skin, relatively hairless body and thin layer of subcutaneous fat. Women's blood contains *more water (20% fewer red cells)*, *thus they tire more easily and are prone to faint*. *In England war factories increase the work day from 10 hours to 12 hours caused a 150% increase in accident rates for women and 0 % increase for men.*

In brute strength, men are *50% stronger*. Women's hearts beat more rapidly 80 to 72. Their blood pressure is 10 points lower, and varies from minute to minute, but they have much less tendency to have high blood pressure, at least until after menopause. Women's breathing power is significantly lower. Women withstand higher temperature variations better than men because their metabolism slows down less. As to sexual drive, the woman's relates to her cycle and man's drive is fairly constant. Women are affected by touch, words, and emotional feelings. Men are affected by sight.

Intuition is an unconscious perception of minute details which are sometimes tangible, sometimes abstract in nature. Since it is usually an 'unconscious' process, many times a woman isn't able to give any specific explanations for the way she feels. A man tends to follow a logical analysis of circumstances or people.

God made us different. God made us for different roles.
Obey God's roles, live life to the fullest.

Marriage V - The Role of ONE FLESH

In Communication

based on *The First Years of Forever* by Dr. Edward Wheat

Memory Verse:

*Eph 4:26-27 Be angry, and sin not;
let not the sun go down upon your
wrath: Neither give place to the devil.*

Daily Bible Readings

| | |
|------|-------------|
| Sun | Eph 4 |
| Mon | Prov 13 |
| Tue | Heb 12 |
| Wed | Psalm 127 |
| Thur | Heb 13 |
| Fri | Prov 7 |
| Sat | Matt 5:1-16 |

This study is to acquaint you with the third essential for you and your spouse to be one flesh. The guidelines come from principles taught in God's Word, about COMMUNICATION.



A marriage without it is a dismal existence at best, but communication with your spouse is an extraordinary delight of marriage. Nothing, not even sexual intimacy, will bring as much enrichment into your marital relationship

Recall briefly the first two essentials to being one

flesh. (Please fill in blanks using only the King James, Authorized Version)

FAITHFULNESS The First Essential

Clearly God commanded you to be forever and completely faithful to your mate "until death" parts you. A solid up front commitment to each other via wedding vows taken before God is the only union God can bless. Faithfulness to those vows is essential. Hebrews 13:4 says "*Marriage is*

_____ in all, and the bed _____: but
whoremongers and adulterers God will _____."

FORGIVENESS: The Second Essential

Matthew 6:14-15 says "*For if ye forgive men their trespasses,
your heavenly Father will*

*also _____: But if ye forgive not men
their trespasses, neither will your Father*

_____ your _____." Faithfulness may
be the first essential of a love filled marriage but even the best

relationship cannot remain intact for long without
FORGIVENESS: the second essential of marriage.

COMMUNICATION: The Third Essential

The third essential for your survival as one flesh with your spouse is communication. Communication is your lifeline in marriage. Perhaps you not listening let me say again
Communication is your lifeline in marriage.

The lifeline of Communication will supply these marital necessities:

- The knowledge and understanding of one another which you need for intimate closeness.
- The interchange of information and ideas you need to work together as a husband-wife team.
- The capability to work out your differences and resolve your conflicts.
- The continuing "in touch" contact you must have to grow together in the same direction, and to be there to support each other during the changes and difficult times of life.

How does your communication system check out?

Five Characteristics of a Communication Lifeline in GOOD WORKING ORDER

- A sense of freedom to express yourself.
- A sense of being understood.
- An absence of win-lose arguments.
- A reduction in tension.
- A sense of being safe and secure in the relationship.

Further symptoms of a CRITICALLY IMPAIRED LIFELINE

- One or both repeatedly assumes negative intent on the part of the other.
- There is increasing distance and silence.

Every Home needs some improvements, use this study to build your lifeline up.

HOW TO BUILD YOUR LIFELINE SYSTEM

5 STEPS - One at a time!

**Step 1. You will feel free to express yourself
when both of you accept one another just as
you are.**

Acceptance (or rejection) sends one of the most powerful
messages known to humans.

How can I communicate with my husband/wife when

- × he/she makes a value judgment on everything I say.
- × he/she decides it's not worthy of his/her attention.
- × he/she quits listening.
- × he/she says "That's not important enough to discuss."
- × REPLACE A JUDGMENTAL OR FAULT FINDING ATTITUDE
WITH A POSITIVE RESPONSE AND A CONSISTENTLY
CARING ATTITUDE!

×

- × Become sensitive to reactions when you criticize or show
impatience, in communication; so sensitive that it hurts you
deeply when you see your spouse hurt this way.

×

×*****

**×Step 2. You will feel understood when both
of you learn to listen with your ears and
hearts to one another.**

×*****

- × We listen at about 25% efficiency! Most misunderstanding
is attributable to poor listening.

×

×Eight ways to develop Your Listening Skills

- ×1) "Half is Not Enough" Give Complete attention- lis-
ten with your heart as well as your ears. The human heart
holds more than speech does.

×

- ×2) **"No Interruptions"** Don't interrupt each other!
Don't jump to conclusions about what the other is saying
Hear your partner out, then respond.
- ×3) **"Repeat, Re-pete"** Prove that you have listened by repeating your partner's thoughts AND FEELINGS back to them so that they are sure you have understood them correctly.
- ×4) **"Respond with Your Eyes"** Real listening involves concentration accompanied by eye contact. Stop what you are doing and respond with your eyes. Stop and make yourself available when you sense that your partner may be wanting to talk.
- ×5) **"Don't wait for Commercial Breaks"** Give each other focused attention with the television OFF. Forgo television, put away the video, turn off the radio, move away from the computer, close the doors, get the children occupied elsewhere, and take the phone off the hook.
- ×6) **"Silence a NEGATIVE Feedback"** Remember your silence can be a negative feedback unless you accompany it with a nonverbal signal of approval, such as a smile, or squeeze of the hand, or loving eye contact.
- ×7) **"With a Breakthrough Don't Overwhelm"** Never overwhelm your partner by demanding more than he or she is ready to give. Just show appreciation and thankfulness for what has been shared with you. And, of course, never repeat what your partner has told you in confidence.
- ×8) **"Give a LOVE Message"** Remember that when you listen to your partner, you are showing love. You are giving your partner the message, "What you have to say to me is important because *you* are important."

×*****

×**Step 3. You will be rid of win-lose arguments in your marriage when you learn what causes them and how to replace them with real communication in resolving disagreements and conflicts.**

Disagreements are rarely life-death matters, often they are

petty, but they can start viscous wars!

Lets look at 6 ways a Discussion Goes Wrong...

Then 8 ways to replace arguments with communication!

Six Ways a Discussion Goes Wrong

1) A War to Be Won When the disagreement becomes a power struggle, no one wins.

2) A Personal Rejection People often take rejection of their ideas as rejection of themselves. Bring your varying viewpoints together and discuss them, finding a solution, and gaining a deeper appreciation for one another at the same time.

3) A Change of Weapons. People change the subject and drag in other issues to use as weapons instead of limiting the discussion to the original disagreement.

4) Sweeping Generalizations. People, frustrated by their inability to make their point, resort to these, characterized by the use of these expressions "You always ..." or "You never..." fighting words.

5) Shouting or Siberia. Inappropriate and Childish ways. "I wish my husband could discuss a matter without shouting. He seems to think that talking loud and fast is the only way to communicate." OR "My only option is to agree with my wife on every point. Otherwise, she sends me to Siberia for weeks at a time."

6) Yea But! People often pull out this prize communication stopper. It simply escalates the argument. Refuse to use those two words in combination again. Learn to make your point differently, beginning with a favorable response, such as "That's an interesting way of looking at it, I hadn't thought of it that way." OR "I see what you mean." then present your point as a question.

Eight ways to replace Arguments with Communication.

1) Response, Not Reaction. Don't interrupt. Listen carefully before you respond. Keep the discussion Squarely on the issue at hand. No side issues. Limit discussion to the present!

2) Disagreement, Not Disapproval. Acknowledge that you understand what your partner is saying, even though you disagree. Show respect.

3) The Gift of Empathy. Make it a point to share your feelings, but not criticize. Encourage the sharing of feelings and respond lovingly. Give sympathy, give empathy.

4) Carefully Clarify. What you are both saying, so there is no misunderstanding. Take turns at this.

5) Truthing in Love. Speak the truth in love. Gently, with your speech and behavior, Honesty and Love.

6) Say "I Need You." Be willing to show your vulnerable, needy side to your partner. Learn the value of being honest, even about your own weaknesses. Real communication means revealing yourself even at the risk of rejection. When both are willing to do this, you are well on your way to building loving intimacy in your relationship.

7) Surprise, and Disarm. Stop being defensive, when the issue is a personal one. Agree that there is wrong on your side, since there always is (even if you don't wish to admit it). "I was wrong", can stop a fight, and demonstrate to your partner how to admit wrong too.

8) Apply the B-e-s-t BLESS with your words. *EDIFY* your partner by what you say, and by your interest. *SHARE* openly and honestly. And *TOUCH* affectionately while you talk.

BLESS - EDIFY - SHARE - TOUCH

communicate the BEST to your mate.

STEP 4. You can reduce tension by recognizing and correcting the communication practices that cause frustration and by learning to fight the Biblical way - a way that deals constructively with anger, resentment, and hurt feelings.

RECOGNIZING THE FRUSTRATIONS

Five Deadly Sins in Communication which can blight any relationship. (Also Sins against Love)

SHUTTING DOWN: Not Listening

SILENT TREATMENT: Not Talking

STABBING: Using the other's words against him/her.

SCOLDING: Putting guilt / blame on the other.

SHALLOW LIMITS: Surface Talk Only.

Another Look at silence: Silence is often used . . . in a power struggle . . . The withholder often feels powerful for he/she can manipulate both the feelings and behavior of the other. This is a favorite ploy in the "something-is-wrong-but-i-will-never-tell game. Sometimes a fierce competition takes place and the competition is in the form of who can be the coldest and most uncommunicative, breaking the silence becomes a sign of weakness . . . Silence can be passive-aggressive behavior, which is indirect, covert, and camouflaged hostility. The hostility is never dealt with openly and , therefore, often feeds on itself and becomes greater. Because the silence prevents hostility from being overtly recognized and dealt with, alienation may result, which is more destructive than fighting. ⁶

Alienation leads to more alienation. The more distance you've placed, the more likely you are to miss or distort messages transmitted between you. Considering the delicate and complex nature of the hundreds of messages sent an

6 Barbara E. James, PhD., "The 'Silent Treatment' in Marriage," *Medical Aspects of Human Sexuality* (February 1983): 100

received in a day's time between husband and wife, with words comprising only seven percent of what is communicated, (the rest coming through tone of voice, body language, and even more subtle factors), is it any wonder that misunderstood messages can seriously damage an already shaky relationship?

Here are some other frustrating communication practices:

- 1. Pretending** you are communicating, when you're merely attacking your spouse.
- 2. Not knowing** how to express your feelings without putting each other down.
- 3. Stating** your views as though they are the absolute truth.
- 4. Not hearing** the message from your partner because you're too busy figuring out what to say next.
- 5. Faking attention**, but not really listening.
- 6. Trying** to communicate when you each have **two different goals** for the conversation.
- 7. Husbands and wives communicate differently**, and this can lead to misunderstandings and mutual exasperation.
- 8. Cultural differences** and personality differences take their toll on patience necessary for communication.

STEP 5: You will feel safe and secure in your relationship if you get to know one another through good communication and remain closely in touch for a lifetime.

Think about this rather melancholy statement spoken by the Duke of Wellington at the end of his life in 1852:

"It is a strange thing that two people can live together for half a lifetime and only understand one another at the very end."

You can build a lifeline system of loving, unhindered communication that will make it possible for you to become:
×Intimate lovers

- ×Best friend who always enjoy being together
- ×A team that can accomplish anything because you work together rather than fighting for control.
- ×Two people who understand one another as unique individuals, not as extensions of yourselves, and accept each other just as you are.
- ×A couple who stay in touch during the changes of a lifetime, who "grow up together" and "grow old together" and remain "at home" with each other no matter what else changes.
- ×Compassionate partners who can help one another adjust to the difficult times of life and endure them together.

GUARDING YOUR LIFELINE

Security takes a bit of guarding. In your case you will know more than anyone else about the sensitive points in your relationship, which need special watchfulness. Here are Dr. Wheats suggestions:

- ×Be alert to Unusual Tension
- ×Never Betray Your Best Friend
- ×Beware of the Heat of the Moment
- ×Never Look at Your Mate Without Compassion
- ×Remember the power of words
- ×Watch out for the 'third-partner' in you marriage. Your TV!

How To Have A Good Biblical FIGHT!

In Strike the Original Match, Charles Swindoll says that Ephesians 4:25-32 "offers seven rules for having a good fight. These rules will allow you to carry on normal, natural, disagreeable times without breaking with Scripture." Here are Chuck Swindoll's *Rules on How to Keep it Clean* from Ephesians 4:25-32

- 1 Keep it honest (v. 25). Be committed to honesty and mutual respect.
2. Keep it under control (v. 26). Make sure your weapons are not deadly.
3. Keep it timed right (vs. 26-27. Agree together that the time is right to talk.
4. Keep it positive (v. 28). Be ready with a positive solution right after taking a swing,

5. Keep it tactful (v- 29). Watch your words and guard your tongue.
6. Keep it private (v. 31). Don't swing at your mate in public. When you swing in public, your malice is showing.
7. Keep it cleaned up (v 32). When it's all over, help clean up the mess.

We encourage you to study these 'rules' and make them part of your new life together. They are practical; they are wise: they work! They can guide you through your conflicts in a controlled, constructive way that hurts neither of you and actually causes you to love each other more, after "the fight" is over.

TV A Major Cause of Problems Leading to Divorce

"the TV itself, that noisy box in the corner of the living room, has become an equal-and essential - partner in many marriages (the Third Partner) Even when it's turned off, there's a blank screen waiting to rejoin the conversation or to monopolize one's spouse's attentions."

For 15 years Dr. Wheat urged newly weds to begin their marriage without a television set in the house. Young people sometimes thought that was asking too much. Now, couples are realizing what a thief television can be, robbing them of prime time together. A bride reported "We decided not to get a TV, and it has been wonderful. There's nothing else to do but spend time paying attention to each other!" Decide how much TV is necessary in your home, a decision of NONE will be richly rewarding. If you will not get rid of it be sure and limit it to a minimal effect (i.e. less than 1 hour per day with at least 2 days OFF per week)

Never stop studying and improving your communication; else your pool of living water becomes stagnant. Guard your lifeline. May God Bless your marriage.

Pastor Ed Rice
Good Samaritan Baptist Church

Let me pause here and say that it is impossible for you to follow God's plan in your marriage without God living inside of you, without being born-again, with a new nature as described in John chapter 3. In Romans 8:8-9 it says *"So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God. 9 But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his.* Do you have the Spirit of God dwelling with you? Call on the Lord Jesus Christ right now, give him your life and soul and he will save you, he will indwell you.

Marriage V - The Role of ONE FLESH

In Fidelity

based on *The First Years of Forever* by Dr. Edward Wheat

Memory Verse:

*2Cor 10:5 Casting down
imagination, and every high thing
that exalteth itself against the
knowledge of God, and bringing into
captivity every thought to the
obedience of Christ.*

Daily Bible Readings

| | |
|------|-------------|
| Sun | 2Cor 10:1-7 |
| Mon | Prov 7 |
| Tue | 1Cor 6:9-20 |
| Wed | Psalms 51 |
| Thur | 1Cor 7 |
| Fri | Prov 28 |
| Sat | Matt 5:1-16 |

Keep thee only unto her so long as you both shall live.

Hope Biblical Counseling Center does a lot of marriage counseling and has written in an article "*Why I have messed up my marriage, and How to fix it,*" four major reasons for marriage failures.

hbc 1. The couple does not have a real intimate, personal, and passionate relationship with the Saviour. They may be a church member and even attend church on a regular basis, but their relationship with God is mechanical at best. Do not underestimate the need here!

hbc 2. Because of the lack of a real relationship with God they are emotion led, feelings dominated people.

hbc 3. They are living for their lusts. Forty-eight times the Bible tells us not to live for our lusts.

hbc 4. Trust has been broken in the marriage. One of the hardest things to do is rebuild trust in a marriage when it has been broken. Trust can be lost in several ways. Lying, stealing, immorality, poor decision making etc. Many times trust has been broken on both sides of the fence. However, men and women react to it differently. Every relationship is based on trust, including our relationship with God.

Given these four problem areas of normal life, it is worth our effort in examining each in more depth.

#1. An intimate, Personal, Passionate Relationship

Dear Son,

Marriage problems are relationship problems, and all relationship problems relate to our relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ our Creator. That is not an over simplification it is a profound realization. “Truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ, and these things write we unto you, that your joy may be full.” There is one essential to a relationship. Without it there can be no relationship; none will start, none will bloom, none will grow, yeah, none will exist. When the essential is sickly the relationship begins to fail. When the essential is broken the relationship dies. The focus for keeping a relationship right needs to be on our lines of communication. There are two lines used in our relationship with our Lord Jesus Christ; we talk to him, and he talks to us. We call the first prayer, the second reading His Word. Please talk this over with Him, and read what he says to you in your Bible, in all five chapters of First John.

I am praying for you.

Love always;
Dad

Dear son,

The very best relationship cannot continue when the lines of communication are cut off. It is headed for trouble when those lines are strained or broken. Any married couple knows the importance of keeping communications in good working order, and have, at one time, tasted the joy of having a right relationship. A relationship with the Lord is the most important one in life. Others will not do well if this one is not right. Lines of communication to our Lord are prayer and Scripture. In this new year spending more time in both can enhance an intimate, personal, gratifying relationship with our

Lord Jesus Christ. I need that. The Apostle John, the beloved disciple, had it, and said, "That which we have seen and heard declare we unto you, that ye also may have fellowship with us: and truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ. And these things write we unto you, that your joy may be full" (1John 1:3-4). Jesus had told John, "Henceforth I call you not servants; for the servant knoweth not what his lord doeth: but I have called you friends; for all things that I have heard of my Father I have made known unto you" (John 15:15). The fellowship that can make your joy full is friendship with God. That is a relationship worth pursuing. Prayer, talking with your friend, and Scripture, hearing from a friend, are more important than anything else in this new year. All of our relationships could be improved, this one first and foremost. When this one is right, all the others fall into proper place. Read your Bible, Genesis to Revelation of Jesus Christ, this year. It will improve your life more than the greatest diet known to man.

I am praying for you.

Love Always
Dad

#2 Depth vs Shallowness; Spirit Led vs Emotions Led; Love Dominated vs Feelings Dominated

Dear Son,

There are things one can do to improve relationships this year. Lines of communication need to be improved. Showing affections and feelings needs some practice. Making effort to spend more time together is always commendable. The latter, the time together thing, would be called abiding together, and Jesus commanded it of us. "I am the true vine and my Father is the husbandman.... Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine" (John 15:1,4). In the military, with frequent TDYs that took me from family weeks at a time, abiding together took on a new urgency. Ninety-five percent of marriages broke during remote

tours. But abiding is bigger than living together, or even being together. Jesus stressed “Abide IN me, and I IN you.” When born-again, one is baptized into Christ (wholly immersed into), and indwelt by the Only Begotten Son of God. It is a permanent arrangement. He said, “I will never leave you nor forsake you.” It is, however, possible that a born-again one might step out on Christ, to not abide with him, to, as it were, excuse themselves from his presence while they go out on their Ranger Bass boat, or their white-tail deer hunting trip. We need to make it a practice to consciously ask His permission before we step out. “Excuse me Lord, I am going on this drunken binge and I will be back in a few days.” See how that works out for you. No... abiding in him means we keep our mind stayed on him. That is why God directed, “Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee:because he trusteth in thee.” Don't step out on the Lord Jesus Christ, abide in him. Don't step out on your wife, abide with her. 1Pe 3:7 *“Likewise, ye husbands, dwell with them according to knowledge, giving honour unto the wife, as unto the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life; that your prayers be not hindered.”*

Communicating His Love;
Dad

Dear Son,

Happy Valentines Day, I love you. That seems a strange start for a letter to my son, but it is sincere on both counts. I pray for you a happiness and deep seated joy that only the LORD God can bring into your life. That can only come when you taste of his selfless love and learn to pass that on to that precious woman you vowed to. It comes when you feel the genuine significance that you hold in the eye of your Creator, and learn to place her on the pedistal of significance for your whole purpose and existence. It come when you know the heart-felt security of a Saviour who said, “I will never leave you or forsake you,” and you learn to surround your sweet wife in such a warm security. Husbands have much to learn, we have a superbly equip classroom; we have an all Holy and

Divine teacher. Pay attention and don't flunk second grade. It takes an effort to learn to read, but it is well worth it as all new vistas open before us.

With a Father's love;
Dad

#3 Living for Love vs Lust

Dear Son,

The two most important things in life are our relationship with God and our control of our minds. They are interrelated, God commands, "Casting down imaginations" (2Cor 10:1-7) (2B-read) Fantasy worlds and pornography are the exact opposite of that command. The parenthesis in this text deals with "the pulling down of strong-holds." Mark God's words, the fantasy world that is built as you feed your mind with the lust of the eye, the lust of the flesh, and the pride of life is an ever growing strong-hold of hell in your life. God gives us weapons to tear it down and destroy it. The internet gives us tools to build it up and reinforce it. The strong-hold built by pornography is formidable. It will destroy your marriage and life. Your vow to "keep thee only unto her so long as you both shall live" extends to the screens that we place before our eyes.

I am praying for you.

Love always
Dad

#4 Rebuilding Trust

Pr 28:13 *He that covereth his sins shall not prosper:
but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy.*
Dear Son,

I love a new year, it is just a mark on the calendar, a new circle around the sun, a start of lengthening days and shortening nights, but it gives a sense of a new start on things. I pray that you will take full advantage of this one to look at your priorities, your responsibilities, and your life goals. Your new year needs to fully embrace the rebuilding of trust That is no

small undertaking and it needs to be done with full consciousness, careful deliberation, and NO rationalizing away the wrong that was done. That might best be done by: #1 Find a time and talk to your wife, confessing that what you did was wrong, it was stupid of you, and that you promise never to go down that road again. #2 Get out your marriage vows (they are in the appendix of the book I sent), and say them out loud and with all seriousness after your date and dinner THIS WEEK. #3 Repeat #1 and #2 at least four times this year (quarterly!). This is not to rehearse your sin, but to effectively put it behind you.

Love you always;

Dad

PS Heed a fathers advice.

Marriage VII - The Heritage of God = Children

Memory Verse:

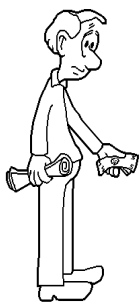
Proverbs 13:24

HE that spareth his rod hateth his son; but he that loveth him chasteneth him betimes.

Daily Bible Readings

| | |
|------|----------------------|
| Sun | Psalm 127 |
| Mon | Prov 19:18, 23:13-14 |
| Tue | Prov 29:15-17 |
| Wed | Prov 13:24, 22:6 |
| Thur | Eph 6 |
| Fri | Prov 1 |
| Sat | Eccl 12 |

This study is to acquaint you with the basics of the responsibility you undertake to rear children in your home. It directly conflicts with what our society has pumped into our heads since our birth, so clear your mind and pay particularly close attention to these Scriptures.



God's Order in the Home

Sociologists of all ages have directly contradicted God's Word concerning the sin nature in man. Today, still, they say things like "Our studies show that capitol punishment is not a deterrent to crime." God says that it is; they say that it is not. Who are you going to believe? In the rearing of your children the stakes are much higher, the results much more near term. They say do not punish, God says

"Foolishness is bound in the heart of a child; but the rod of correction shall drive it far from him. (Proverbs 22:15) The all important question to you is, once more, "Who are your going to believe?" To say "I tried spanking and it didn't work for my child." Is to say God is wrong and the world and I are right. To dawdle in the middle will bring a horribly painful 18 years and a future filled with anguish Lets admit up front that God is right here and carefully, knowledgeably pursue the following of His directions.

The Blessing of Children?

How does Psalms 127: 3-5 describe our children?

(Please fill in blanks using only the King James, Authorized Version of the Bible)

_____.

How are fathers commanded to bring up children in

Ephesians 6:4? _____

Get your Dictionary and define:

NURTURE _____

ADMONITION _____



What does the Bible teach about punishing a child in Heb

12:7-8 _____

What does the Bible teach about spanking a child in Proverbs
23:13-14 _____

In Proverbs 29:15? _____

Children can ruin a marriage, a home, a life. But raised in
God's way they can bring blessing
untold.

Proverbs 29:17 says "*Correct thy son,
and*

he shall give thee _____.

Yea, he shall give _____
unto they soul."



Correcting a Child God's Way

A reason that the sociologist react to spanking as they do is
because there have been numerous misuses. When we act in

the flesh, in anger, in impatient haste, or in selfishness to correct a child we are outside of God's purposes. look quickly at these illustrations.

- 1) If you spank a child when you are angry you are in error.
- 2) If you strike a child when they are not expecting it, it is hasty and wrong.
- 3) If you spank a child without addressing the disobedience and expressing your love for them you are not correcting.
- 4) If you fail to spank a child you do not love the child (Prov 13:24)
- 5) There is much more to child reading than spanking.



NOTE from Pastor Rice

Do not send your child to a public school, they do not teach Reading Writing & Arithmetic. They teach anti-creation, anti-moral, anti-Bible, anti-God. They start this rigorous training in kindergarten! Afford any other option!

Bill Rice wrote a book called "Love 'em Lick 'em and Learn 'em". If you are going to raise a child, do not do it without this book. It is very practical and addresses all the worlds arguments against doing it God's way.

God said to chasteneth him betimes. This entails doing it Early. Over 200 years ago Jean Roussear (1712-1778) wrote "Lacking all sense of right and wrong, a child can do nothing which is morally evil, or which merits either punishment or reproof." Again this directly contradicts God's instruction as well as blatant observation. From his first day in a home a child begins learning to manipulate parents to get his own way. Any parent knows (except perhaps some of us fathers) that a child quickly learns to cry for food, when not hungry, but knowing that mom will pick him up. (That's called lying, to get your own way, they did not need instructions to figure it out, it comes in our morally evil nature Miss Roussear.)

Again God says: *Pro. 29:15 The rod and reproof give*

wisdom; but a child left to himself bringeth his mother to shame."

Bill Rice records for us: "There was a Texas preacher named B.B. Crim. Crim...He was a rough and tumble cowboy preacher who preached in great revivals... Somebody said: "Dr. Crim, do you believe in spanking children?" He said: "Of course!" They said, "Well how soon do you think you should spank your children?" He said: "Well, you ought to wait about a week to spank a little girl but you'd better give a baby boy a lickin' the day he's born."

Of course he was joking (is that hyperbole?) but he was right to emphasize the fact that parents should begin training children early.

Somebody says: "well, when should you spank a little child?" The moment he knows that you say "don't and he does. He has bought and paid for a paddling."

I had a co-worker who knew I was a youth director. I observed his defiant 8 year old son, who did nothing his father told him and was big enough to do his parents physical harm. He asked if I thought spanking him was the solution. He never had spanked or disciplined his children, never forced them to obey him because the sociologists said that would ruin his children's creativity. Now, the father was terrified of an 8 year old who had been thrown out of 2 schools for disobedience and had beat his mother for telling him what to do. He wanted to change his tactics from what the world had taught him. What could he do now? The sociologists hate our tactics but they love our results. Purpose to do it right from the start.

Spanking or Other Means to an end?

Again from Bill Rice- Somebody says, "Well, I just think we ought to make Junior sit in the corner." Fine. And he'll be sitting there... getting madder every minute. You make him sit in a corner and he will think, "Boy, when I get big enough,

pow! He will get it! I'll tell you right now..." No, No , why don't you get it settled ? Why in the world don't you just take and turn him over your knee and blister his britches and get the thing settled. You say: "Well, aren't there other ways to discipline?" Yes, there are, but I don't believe any of them work nearly as well as this. This is how God told us to do it. You can take away the allowance, and there may be a time you ought to do it. You may ground him. You may turn off the T.V., and that's a real good idea. But spank him. Spank him! This is what God says to do. Paddle him. Get it settled.

I have often heard young parents say; "Oh, we tried spanking him, and it doesn't work." But God's word says that it will work. I will either believe that God was right and they did something wrong, or that God is wrong and they are learning a better means. What would you believe? Let's look at some important principles.

Seven Rules

From Bill Rice's Book "Love'em Lick'em Learn'em"

When my wife and I were married and expecting the first baby, we read everything we could find in the Bible about parents and children. We made some rules concerning spanking. Perhaps they may be of help to other parents.

1. Talk. Try to anticipate things that might happen. that might go wrong. Don't be quick to spank them. Be quick to talk and try your best to talk them into doing right. "Don't do that any more, son, you mustn't do it any more." Talk! there are a few things where there was no second chance. We live on a ranch. If a house catches on fire it is very serious.. So our children simply could not play with matches. The fire department can't get to u. So we warned our children that playing with matches was a spanking matter.

2. Keep your word. Don't ever, ever get into the habit of saying, "Now, if you do it I'll spank you. Now don't do that again. All right , the next time I'll spank you." No, if you ever say; "I will spank you if you do it," spank him! If your

mother-in-law is there, if the governor is there, no matter who is there... If you say you will spank him, do it.

3. *Husband and wife agree.* Don't ever argue in front of the kids. If one thinks he shouldn't be spanked and the other one thinks he should, say, "Go to your room. We will call you." Talk it over. You will probable agree. You say you won't spank him or you will. Call him and tell him. If you can't make up your mind and you disagree, then spank him. Every time spank him. Anything is better than that he divide his father and mother. Don't ever let a kid get the idea that one of you is going to be his lawyer and if he can just get to you, you'll take up for him. Don't ever do that.

4. *Next thing, co-operate.* One of you hold him and one of you spank. Your child ought to be made to realize - in our home we serve God, we do it right. Make him realize he is being punished because it's right - not because one is mad and one isn't. It's a matter of right and wrong and both parents are in favor of seeing that he does right.

5. *Spank soundly.* Don't ever slap him, or hit him, or kick him. Not ever. Spank your son or your daughter on the buttocks. Hard. And Long. Don't ever use your hand. It'll sting and you'll quit... If you've ever spanked your child and he's mad at you, then you didn't spank him. If you've ever spanked him and he gets up and hits you, you didn't spank him.

You spank until you get the thing settled. And no matter how much yelling and promising don't stop. He's had his opportunity to show whether he will or won't do right. If you ever have to start spanking, keep it up. Make it a sound one while you are at it. Always. Don't have little bitty eensy weensy itsy bitsy make'em-mad-and-cry spankings. "Let not your soul spare for his crying," the Bible says. A psychiatrist heard me preach and she said, "Dr. Rice, if my father had spanked me I'd have hated him for the rest of my life." I replied, "Lady, if my dad had spanked you, you'd have loved him to death, just for stopping!" Spank Soundly.

6. Talk after the spanking. Explain again how vital it is that children obey parents. Tell him how much you love him and how concerned you are for him.

7. Be consistent! And the last point, do it again when you need to. Be consistent!

Child Rearing 101

This is but introductory material to pursue you to raise your Child "in the nurture and admonition of the Lord." To be a Godly parent you will need to study far more of His Word and His principles. Decide now that you will study and follow his plan, instead of the sociologists plan, your mom's plan, or Hollywood's plan. Although I say I have hundreds of books, I only have one written by God. Let me encourage you to get and study several Godly books on the home and on child rearing. May God bless you as you follow his plan.

God Commands Circumcision⁷

When God established His covenant with Abraham He laid the foundation for a far-reaching relationship that would last for ever. Even today, God has not forsaken His covenant with Abraham's seed. God also gave Abraham a sign, called circumcision, which would act as a reminder of the covenant between God and His people. *“And God said unto Abraham, Thou shalt keep my covenant therefore, thou, and thy seed after thee in their generations. This is my covenant, which ye shall keep, between me and you and thy seed after thee; Every man child among you shall be circumcised. And ye shall circumcise the flesh of your foreskin; and it shall be a token of the covenant betwixt me and you” (Gen 17:9-11).*

For hundreds of generations, the Jews have placed great significance on God's command to Abraham to circumcise all Jewish males. Because of this long-standing tradition among the Jews, some Christians have also tried to include circumcision as a part of the teachings of the church or as

7 “Bible First!, Vol 4, Lesson 12 – Abraham, Part 2” Euro Team Outreach Inc. www.euroteamoutreach.org, 43

necessary for salvation. However, the Bible is unmistakably clear that circumcision was given to the nation of Israel only; it was never given to the church as a requirement, nor is it a prerequisite for salvation. Paul declares in Gal 6:15: *“For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision availeth any thing, nor uncircumcision, but a new creature.”*

Did You Know? The word circumcision is defined as a cutting around and is the Jewish purification custom of cutting away the foreskin of male children.

Early writings record that many other ancient civilizations practiced circumcision. The Ethiopians were said to use circumcision prophylactically in order to prevent certain painful and often incurable diseases. The Egyptians were said to use circumcision as a practice of cleanliness that was carried out not only by the priesthood but also by the population in general.

Circumcision has also been associated with cleanliness, purification, and the prevention of disease in modern times. Today's medical studies report that male circumcision results in many health benefits for both men and women, including lower rates of infections, cancer, inflammation, and sexually transmitted diseases.

Physical circumcision is not required in the New Testament but is a picture of a new birth in Christ. Colossians 2:10-11 states, *“And ye are complete in him, which is the head of all principality and power: In whom also ye are circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, in putting off the body of the sins of the flesh by the circumcision of Christ.”* Abraham's circumcision not only symbolized his righteousness or cleanliness towards God, but even more importantly it was a prophetic picture of a believer's circumcision or purification in Jesus Christ.

Abraham Circumcises His Household.

“And Abraham took Ishmael his son, and all that were born in his house, and all that were bought with his money, every male among the men of Abraham's house; and

circumcised the flesh of their foreskin in the selfsame day, as God had said unto him” (Gen 17:23).

Difficult as it must have been from a physical standpoint, Abraham circumcised every male in this house in obedience to God's command. Most would put off such a painful and unpleasant responsibility as long as possible, or find a way to excuse themselves from compliance altogether. Abraham's response, however, was immediate. Not only did he offer no resistance, he also fulfilled this command on the very same day that God gave it.

Did You Know? In Genesis 17:12, God specifically directed Abraham to circumcise newborn males on the eighth day. Why the eighth day? Vitamin K is responsible for the production (by the liver) of the element known as prothrombin. If Vitamin K is deficient, there will be a prothrombin deficiency and hemorrhaging may occur. Vitamin K coupled with prothrombin, causes blood coagulation, which is important in any surgical procedure. Holdt and McIntosh, in their classic work, “Holt Pediatrics”, observed that a newborn infant has “peculiar susceptibility to bleeding between the second and fifth days of life... Hemorrhages at this time... are sometimes extensive...”⁸ Obviously then, if Vitamin K is not produced in sufficient quantities until days five through seven it would be wise to postpone any surgery until some time after that. (A www.GSBaptistChurch.com reproduction)

8 Biblical Accuracy and Circumcision of the 8th Day, by Bert Thomson, Ph. D., Apologetics Press Inc. Articles, 2004, as cited by “Bible First!, Vol 4, Lesson 12 – Abraham, Part 2”, pg 45

Child Discipline with 7 Rules

1. Talk Before
2. Keep your Word.
3. Husband and Wife Agree.
4. Husband and Wife Co-operate.
5. Spank Soundly. Hard. Long.
6. Talk after Spanking. Pray.
7. Be Consistent!



Pro. 22:6 Train up a child in the way he should go; and when he is old, he will not depart from it.

Review These Crucial Contents:

Marriage I - God's Design for the Home

"We believe that the home and marriage is holy and ordained by God; that in marriage the husband and wife become one flesh and establish a home; that the husband is to be the head of the home, the wife an obedient help meet to the husband and the children are to obey and honor their parents."

Marriage II - The Role of the Wife

Eph 5:22-24 Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord. 23 For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body. 24 Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in every thing.

Marriage III - The Role of the Husband

1Pet 3:7 Likewise, ye husbands, dwell with them according to knowledge, giving honour unto the wife, as unto the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life; that your prayers be not hindered.

Marriage IV - The Role of ONE FLESH

Proverbs 5:15 Drink waters out of thine own cistern, and running waters out of thine own well.

Marriage V - The Role of ONE FLESH In Communication

Eph 4:26-27 Be angry, and sin not; let not the sun go down upon your wrath: Neither give place to the devil.

Marriage VI - The Role of ONE FLESH In Fidelity

2Co 10:5 Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ;

Marriage VII - The Heritage of God = Children

Proverbs 13:24 HE that spareth his rod hateth his son; but he that loveth him chasteneth him betimes.

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Appendix

Marital Pre-Counseling Inventory I

The following series of questions relates to the level of satisfaction which you usually find in your interaction with your spouse.

1) How happy are you with the way in which you and your spouse usually handle each of the following aspects of your family life? Please circle the number which best represents how happy you are in each area.

1. Happy 2. Mostly Happy 3. Moderately Happy
4. Moderately Unhappy 5. Mostly UnHappy

___ a. Social interaction with each other 1 2 3 4 5

___ b. Affectionate interaction with each other 1 2 3 4 5

___ c. Sexual interaction with each other 1 2 3 4 5

___ d. Trust in each other 1 2 3 4 5

___ e. Management of children 1 2 3 4 5

___ f. Management of free time 1 2 3 4 5

___ g. Management of chores or other responsibilities at home
1 2 3 4 5

___ h. Management of finances 1 2 3 4 5

___ i. Social interaction with friends 1 2 3 4 5

___ j. Social interaction with in-laws and other relatives 1 2 3 4 5

___ k. The way spouse manages themselves personally 1 2 3 4 5

___ l. Management of jobs outside the home. 1 2 3 4 5

2) Please look back over each question. This time draw an X through each answer, 1 2 3 4 5, which you think your spouse will select in answering each question for himself/herself.

3) Please read over the list of areas. In the blanks at the left of the list, please indicate whether the item is:

- a. Most important to you b. Highly important to you.
c. Fairly important to you. d. Unimportant to you.

4) Looking back over this list once again, please suggest ways in which a change in your behavior might improve your satisfaction in any areas which you rated as '4 or 5' that is, less than moderately happy or unhappy.

5) Now it's time to share this information with your spouse and compare our lists.

Source: Richard B Stuart and Frieda Stuart, The Marital Pre-Counseling Inventory(Champagne, Illinois: Research Press, 1973), p. 7.

Marital Pre-Counseling Inventory II

These questions concern your general commitment to and optimism about your marriage. Please answer them with your present feelings in mind, leaving out of consideration how you used to feel,... or how you think that you should feel.

1. Everything considered, how happy are you in your marriage?

95%+ 75% 50% 25% 5%

2. Everything considered. how happy do you think your spouse is in your marriage?

95%+ 75% 50% 25% 5%

3. Everything considered, do you expect to become happier as time goes by?

95%+ 75% 50% 25% 5%

4. Everything considered, do you think that your spouse expects to become happier as time goes by?

95%+ 75% 50% 25% 5%

5. How committed are you to remain in your marriage?

95%+ 75% 50% 25% 5%

6. How committed do you think your spouse is to remain in your marriage?

95%+ 75% 50% 25% 5%

7. What proportion of the time spent with your spouse is happy for you?

95%+ 75% 50% 25% 5%

8. What proportion of the time which your spouse spends with you do you think is happy for him or her?

95%+ 75% 50% 25% 5%

9. Everything considered, do you expect to continue to grow personally as time goes by?

95%+ 75% 50% 25% 5%

10. Everything considered, do you expect your spouse to continue to grow personally as time goes by?

95%+ 75% 50% 25% 5%

Source: Richard B Stuart and Frieda Stuart, The Marital Pre-Counseling Inventory(Champagne, Illinois: Research Press, 1973), p. 11

INITIAL GOALS FORM

Instructions: Below you will find a list of goals you may consider important for the two of you to work toward at this time. Please read each item. Select the one most important goal for you at this time.

1. I would like to get some relief from the constant arguing and unpleasantness between us.
2. I would at least like things to be a bit more peaceful and pleasant.
3. I would like to see more politeness in our day-to-day relationship.
4. I would like to avoid violent quarrels.
5. I would like us to be more civil and respectful toward each other.
6. I would like to be able to work together better as a team, to take better care of the daily chores.
7. I would like to know that if I do something positive it will count and mean something to my spouse.
8. I would like to be able to come to agreements better in which there is give and take on both sides.
9. I would like there to be more exchange of affection between us.
10. I would like my spouse to share more in the responsibilities we both must meet.
11. I would like my spouse to accept me more and to express more liking for me.
12. I wish we could be better at being each others friend.
13. I would like my spouse to find me more attractive.
14. I would like to have more influence in making decisions.
15. I would like to have my spouse be more interested in me.
16. I would like to be better able to get my messages across to my spouse.
17. I want my spouse to be better at discussing problems and helping to solve them.
18. I want my spouse to improve at listening to me
19. I wish my spouse were more understanding and considerate of my feelings.
20. I would like to better understand my spouse's feelings and reactions.
21. Other (please specify) ' _____

Source: John Gottman, Behavioral Interviewing with Couples (guidebook accompanying the film)(Champaign Illinois: Research Press, 1976), p 34.

Eve Womann and Adam Mann

Who giveth this woman in marriage?

(The bride takes her place at the alter by the groom. And follow the pastor to the front, the wedding party closes in a semicircle)

Opening Prayer

Today for Adam & Eve, for their family that has gathered here, for their friends and for the guests that are here,... we want to celebrate the formation of a Christian home.

We, then, are assembled in the sight of God and of his holy angels, to join this man and this woman in the bonds of matrimony; which is an honorable estate, instituted of God in the time of man's innocency, confirmed by the teaching of our blessed Savior, and compared by the apostle Paul to the mystical union which exists between Christ and His Church.

God's Word Says: *Have ye not read that he which made them at the beginning, made them male and female, and said; for this cause shall a man leave father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife; and they twain shall be one flesh? Wherefore they are no more twain, but one flesh. What, therefore, God hath joined together, let no man put asunder.*

There are several distinctives to a Christian home that make it quite different from the homes found in our society. Adam and Eve have gone through these distinctives in detail and have agreed to me that they want their home to be a Christian home based on the Bible.

That brings us to this day in their lives when they take their vows before God. In these vows they shall endeavor, with all the power that is within them, to form a home that follows hard after God and to pledge their love and loyalty to each other. Adam and Eve have professed their salvation in the Lord Jesus Christ, been scripturally baptized according to the command of their Lord. The Bible says that when a believer takes these steps in sincerity that *"if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new. And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ,"*

When I said Adam and Eve will form a Christian home

with all the power that is in them, it is only the Lord Jesus Christ within them that will enable them to have such a home, for the Bible says *Except the LORD build the house, they labor in vain that build it: except the LORD keep the city, the watchman waketh but in vain. (PSA 127:1)*

We rejoice in a new found life in Christ, and His presence in us, and want all to know that you too can have this new found life, simple by calling on Him today, and putting your faith and trust in his grace to save you. Adam and Eve have professed that all important life changing decision for their life, and we are excited now to be part of this decision for their marriage.

White is the symbol of purity, and Gold the symbol of everlasting righteousness. Adam and Eve appear before God on this day, having called on the Lord Jesus Christ to forgive them, and to cleanse them, and have claimed that scripture that says, *Come now, and let us reason together, saith the LORD: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool. (Isa 1:18)*

Adam and Eve, your marriage to each other, and your home that you will form this day is to be that white and that pure. And it can be,... in the Lord Jesus Christ. He is the God of rebuilt lives, for of him the scriptures say: *A bruised reed shall he not break, and the smoking flax shall he not quench: he shall bring forth judgment unto truth. (Isa 42:3)*

It has been truthfully said, I am not perfect, just forgiven. Each of us here today may be perfectly forgiven of sin and white as snow. The gold in a ring today symbolizes His everlasting righteousness, because these vows, taken before God, are "until death do us part", and this Christian marriage is to be covered in Christ's Righteousness.

Adam, your home will have trials that it must endure, but the saint of old, who endured tremendous trials has penned in the Scriptures: *But he knoweth the way that I take: when he hath tried me, I shall come forth as gold. My foot hath held his steps, his way have I kept, and not declined. Neither have I gone back from the commandment of his lips; I have esteemed*

the words of his mouth more than my necessary food. (Job 23:10-12)

You have chosen to have a Christian marriage, and a Christian home to raise up your children. Today we rejoice with you in that decision and bid you God's blessing and Christ's presence.

Into this holy estate these two persons are come to be joined. Therefore, if any man can show any just cause why they may not be lawfully joined together, let him now speak, or forever after hold his peace.

Also, I charge you each, as you will answer before God at the day of judgment, if either of you know any reason why you may not be lawfully joined together in matrimony, confess it now. For, be well assured, that all those who are brought together, contrary to the Word of God, are not joined together of God; neither is their marriage lawful before God.

Marriage Vows

If you, Adam Mann, and you, Eve Womann have freely and deliberately chosen each other as partners for life, would you please join hands.

Adam Mann, will you have this woman to be your wedded wife; will you love her, honor and keep her in sickness as in health, in poverty as in wealth, and forsaking all others, keep thee only unto her so long as you both shall live - do you so promise?

Eve Womann , will you have this man to be your wedded husband? Will you love him, honor and keep him in sickness as in health, in poverty as in wealth, and forsaking all others, keep thee only unto him so long as you both shall live - do you so promise?

Adam, would you repeat after me the following words please:

I, Adam Mann... Take thee, Eve Womann ...
To be my wedded wife. ...To have and to hold ...
From this day forward ... For better, for worse ...
For richer, for poorer ... In sickness and in health ...
To love and cherish ... Till death do us part ...

Eve , would you repeat after me the following words please:
I, Eve Womann ... Take thee, Adam Mann
To be my wedded husband. ... To have and to hold ...
From this day forward ... For better, for worse ...
For richer, for poorer ... In sickness and in health ...
To love, cherish and obey... Till death do us part ...

Exchanging of Rings

May I have the rings please. Please join hands. There is no better way to show one's love for another than the exchanging of a ring. A ring is beautiful as is love. A ring never ends, and your love is to never end. You join millions of people who through the generations of mankind have said to each other, "I love you, and express that love by giving you a ring."

Adam , as you give this ring to Eve you are saying, "Eve , I love you with a love as beautiful and as never-ending as this ring."

To show that love for her would you take this beautiful ring and place it on the third finger of her left hand. As you do, will you give it to her because you love her, and she will wear it to show the world her love for you.

Now, Eve , you are saying, "Adam , I too want to show my love, and I show you that love by placing this ring upon yor finger, I give you my life, my love, and my heart." In so doing would you please place the ring upon the third finger of his left hand. You will give it to him because you love him, and Adam , you will wear it because you love her.

For as much as you, Adam Mann , and you Eve Womann, have offered yourselves each to the other, believing it God's will that you become one flesh, and believing that God has led you to this place, as your Pastor, an officer of the laws of the State of New York, and a minister of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, in the presence of your family, these friends, and our Heavenly Father, I take great pleasure in pronouncing you as husband and wife.

Let us pray. Our Heavenly Father, at this alter, on this day, in this place we have seen Adam Mann, and Eve Womann, make vows that will cause them to be one flesh, according to Your Word. We thank you that this will be the place where they will grow in grace, and where they will continue to know Thee better and love Thee more. Bless their home. Bless their life together. May peace, love, joy, and all the blessings and goodness of You be given to each of them. In Jesus' name. Amen

You may now kiss the bride.

"What God hath joined together, let not man put asunder."

It is a real joy to introduce to you Mr. & Mrs. Adam Mann

* * * * *

REHEARSAL

Start with Prayer

3 passes Talk thru - Run thru - Walk thru

WHOOOPS, handle errors with all grace.

A time for Serious Vows but also a time of great rejoicing

It is not fitting that pictures be taken during the ceremony.

Ample time for pictures will follow the ceremony.

Schedule

Groom and Attendants arrive 15 minuets early

Bride should arrive in time to avoid rush.

Usher#1 _____ Usher#2 _____

Usher#3 _____ Usher#4 _____

Best Man _____ Grooms man _____

Bridesmaid#1 _____ Bridesmaid#2 _____

Bridesmaid#1 _____ Bridesmaid#2 _____

Maid of Honor _____

Ring Bearer _____ Flower Girl _____

Father (or one giving the bride away) _____

Ushers should begin seating guests as they arrive. One should seat the grooms guests (on right) and one the brides guests (on left). The usher should extend his arm to the lady (in a party of ladies to the eldest) the husband follows. From the outside of the seating section (lady closest to seats), the usher escorts them to the seat. Turn & face the rear while showing the seat with your hand.

The Wedding BEGINS with the escort of the Grooms mother, with father following, to the first row on the right side. Usher returns to the rear.

The bride's mother is now escorted to the front seat on the left just to the left of the isle. Leave seat for the father. Usher returns to the rear.

For a two candle union the two head ushers together escort the mothers to the table, where the mothers light the candles.

Ushers roll out the white carpet for the coming of the wedding party. (If ushers are also groomsmen they must immediately join the Pastor and Groom for their entry.)

The first wedding song is sung by _____
Title _____

The pastor enters 15 seconds later the groom followed by the best man, and the groomsmen. They take their place at the altar, facing the rear.

With the beginning of the bridal march the bridesmaids enter and take their place on the left facing the rear.

The maid of honor enters and takes her place at the altar opposite the best man.

Ring Bearer and Flower Girl enter and take their place. The entire wedding party faces the rear for the entrance of the bride.

With the beginning of the wedding march the bride enters on the right arm of her father. (or left if the father is to give her right arm to the groom at the altar.) As they approach, the music softens, and the pastor asks "Who giveth this woman in marriage?" The father replies "I do." and in turn gives the bride to the groom. The groom offers his left arm to the bride and they step up to the pastor. As they take their final step the wed-

ding party turns and forms a semicircle around the pastor.

The soloist sings the second song _____

The Pastor gives a few fitting words, the exchange of the vows, the giving of rings and the pronouncing of husband and wife.

The two proceed to the candle table and jointly light the single candle with their individual candle and then extinguish the individual candles lite by their moms.

Soloist sings The Lord's Prayer or The Wedding Prayer (Option)

Pastor's closing prayer.

The KISS! At the close of the prayer the bride and groom turn toward each other , the groom lifts the bride's veil and places a brief, but impressive, kiss upon her lips. The pastor quotes, *"What God hath joined together, let not man put asunder"*

At the end of the kiss, the pastor steps to the side of the bride, gestures with hand and says "I now present Mr. and Mrs. John Doe.

The organist then plays the recessional.

The receiving line should consist of the grooms men and brides maids, the Parents of the Groom, the Parents of the Bride, and then the bride and groom.

Any reenactments for photo's should be accomplished swiftly prior to departure to the reception, or if local after reception meal starts.

* * * * *

Woman's Role Course Outline

I Course Description:

This course serves as an introduction to

II Course Objectives:

A.

B.

C. Concerning character to challenge and encourage each student to be authentic, sincere and effective in their role as servants of the Most High God.

III Course schedule:

Week 1 Why Would I Marry

The Woman's Role as Wife

Week 2 The Scriptural Role

Week 3 The Completor

Week 4 The Difficulties Unit Exam 1 (wife)

The Woman's Role as Mother

Week 5 Home = Man's Kingdom, Woman's World, Child's Paradise

Week 6 Proper Discipline . . . Betimes

Week 7 Teens! Letting Go . . . Letting God

The Woman's Role as Servant (Deaconess? Rom 16:1)

Week 8 Can's & Cant's Unit Exam 2 (mother & servant)

Week 9 Effective Service - Child Trainers & Men Comple-tors

The Woman's Role in a Career

Week 10 Balance in Life

Week 11 Finances

The Woman's Role, Problems and Impossibilities

Week 12 Yeah But.

Week 13 Conclusions & Wrap up Unit Exam (wife, mother, servant, career)

IV Course Outline

Section One:

Section Two:

Section Three:

Section Four:

V Course Format

- A. Lectures, discussion, and Q&A sessions.
- B. Workshops and oral presentations
- C. Focused reading and practical projects

VI Course Requirements

- A. Attendance
- B. Reading
- C. Homework
- D. Reports
- E. Extra Credit will be awarded for additional reading from the bibliography
- F. Your Grade will consist of the following:
 - 10% Class Attendance
 - 20% Reading
 - 10% Homework
 - 20% Unit Exam 1
 - 20% Unit Exam 2
 - 20% Final Exam

VI Bibliography

Hutson, Curtise "The Woman's Role"(Sword of Lord Publishers) 15 pgs (furnished)

Schaap, Cindy "A Wife's Purpose" (Sword of Lord Publishers) 156 pgs (furnished)

Rice, Bill "Love-em Lick-em and Learn-em" (B.Rice Ranch) 100 pgs (furnished)

Vocabulary List: *Words that need to be understood as relating to this course,*

| | | |
|------------|--------------|--------------|
| submit | subject | mystery |
| church | wife | husband |
| submission | role | relationship |
| everything | temptation | love |
| discreet | chaste | keepers |
| sanctified | conversation | attitude |
| obedience | | |

Woman's Role Coursework

Week 1 Why Would I (Did I) Marry:

Develop the following 4 good and 4 bad reasons. Add explanations, scriptures, examples, illustrations, and definitions as required.

Four Good Reasons (*Notice that these correspond well to four*

basic needs in human life, and are also met by salvation) (In marriage these needs are mutual, i.e for male and female, but differ in importance, perhaps, . . perhaps not.)

God's Plan, Purpose, Blessing Promised

Love - def: Overwhelming selfless consideration of another

Security - Physical & Emotional

Significance - Physical & Emotional - Who Am I , . . . A

Role In life . . . too many roles?

Four Bad Reasons

Escape Mechanism (house, parents, suitor, life, loneliness)

Ego

Sex

Rationalization (lying to self about above three, making them fit into the four good reasons above)

NEXT WEEK The Woman's Role as Wife Week 2 The Scriptural Role

The Role

Which definition are we using?

role also **role** (r¹/l) *n.* **1.** A character or part played by a performer. **2.** The characteristic and expected social behavior of an individual. **3.** A function or position. See Synonyms at **function**.

God always gives the necessary abilities before he gives the challenging responsibilities.

Discuss and add scriptures to the following cartoons in light of:

Mans Incompleteness

Defying God's Plan

God as a completor

Conforming to the Role

Commitment, Companionship, and Communication

Body, Soul, Spirit

Woman's Role

Defeating God's Plan

Un-Married yet Fulfilled

Love, Security, and Significance

Physical, Emotional, Spiritual



Figure 2



Figure 1

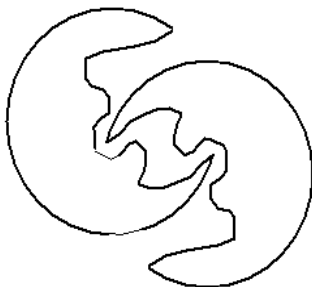


Figure 4



Figure 3

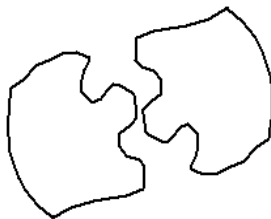


Figure 5

Good Samaritan Baptist Church Bible Institute

Woman's Role Exam 1

Name _____ Date _____

This is a Open Bible, Open Notes, Open Book exam. Exam is to be accomplished in one sitting (approx 1 hour). Type or Write out answers on standard 8 1/2 x 11 notebook paper write on one side, and double space.

1. In relation to the class discussion briefly define the following terms: (2pts ea)

- | | |
|-------------|--------------------|
| a. Submit | b. Love |
| c. Chaste | d. Keepers at home |
| e. Sanctify | f. Conversation |

2. Give five characteristics for a help-meet from Proverbs 31. (2 pts ea)

Questions 3-7 should be answered neatly on the separate sheets of paper.

3. List 3 separate Bible reference that address the role of a wife and discuss each briefly. (30 Pts)

4. Give three reasons for marriage. Briefly explain and illustrate each. (15 pts)

5. Give four poor reasons for marriage. Briefly explain and illustrate each. (15 pts)

6. Explain the difference between the common vernacular help-mate and the Bible terms help-meet. (10 pts)

7. Discuss Genesis 2:24 in relation to the role of the Husband, the Wife, and "In-Laws". (10 pts)