



# HOLY MATRIMONY

“Who can find a virtuous woman? Her price is far above rubies. The heart of her husband doth safely trust in her, so that he shall have no need of spoil. She will do him good and not evil all the days of her life.” **Proverbs 31:10-12**

I. DIVORCE is out of control! **The divorce rate is around 50% or more**

(a) Why are marriages in the LORD's church failing? **Mark 10:9 – Hosea 4:6**

❑ Lack of knowledge – GOD never intended for marriages to separated –**Matt. 19:8**

❑ Selfishness – GOD knows it was not good for man to be alone – **Gen. 2:18**

Each partner is to compliment and complete the other. We must be willing to give 90%

❑ Love of sin – homosexuals – total disregard for GOD & His law

(b) Define leave & cleave – **Gen. 2:24 – Matt. 19:5**

Bonded or cemented – Marriage is to be based on the GOD given relationship of one man and one woman for life. **Col. 3:18 - 1 Pet. 3:1**

II. What is the difference between loving someone and being “in love”?

Feelings! Feelings change. **1 Cor. 13** teaches love is a commitment.

III. Does subjection mean slavery? **Ephesians 5:22-33**

GOD will hold the man responsible. **Gen. 3:17-19** We can make our place an easy one or a difficult one. Our job is important to make it all work as GOD planned. It's all in the attitude!

IV. Three aspects of marriage:

(a) Physical:

sexual drive - **Heb. 13:4 - 1 Cor. 7:1-9**

Keepers at home – **Titus 2:5 1 Tim. 5:14**

Parents (partners) – **Prov. 29:15 Eph. 6:4**

Financial – live within your means **Prov. 19:14** Make your husband happy he married you!

(b) Emotional:

1-2 people coming together to build one life, one purpose, one goal

2-Companionship – one of the most fundamental needs of all humans – physical attraction, best friends – **Eccl. 9:9**

3- Communication – this is said to be the problem in 80% of marriages. Poor communication. Making oneself understood. It implies sharing of ones feelings. Making oneself vulnerable. Some couples talk a lot but they communicate very little.

4- Selfishness – each should be willing to give 90% - **Matt. 7:12** – This applies in marriage as well. Rebekah is a good example for us to follow in selflessness – **Gen 24:19.**

“I love because I am loved” – immaturity / “I am loved because I love” – maturity

5- If you are to be one, your mate must come before others, your children, parents, friends & other family members. Leave & cleave - **Gen. 2:24 – Matt. 19:5**

6- Accept your mate for who he is. It is not your job to change him. Negatives are easier to deal with if you focus on the positives. When's the last time you gave a sincere compliment or thank you to your spouse? “Am I a compliment or complaint in my husbands eyes?” **Prov. 12:4**

7-Forgiveness – **Col 3:13** – Anger, grudges & spite destroy a relationship. Use a thimble, not a file cabinet to store your painful memories – **Eph. 4:26** – Couples who actually practice this stay together. **Prov. 21:19, 25:24**

- 8- Common courtesy – Is it not true that we sometimes treat our pets and total strangers more politely than our mates? **1Cor. 13:4** – love suffers long and is kind. ‘Get caught being kind’ to the man you married – **Prov. 31:26, 15:1**. Practice the use of ‘please, thank you, I’m sorry’ It is human nature to respond in kind – **Prov. 21:9 & 27:15 – Luke 6:38**
- 9-Leave breathing room. All of us need time & space for ourselves. A good marriage can be strangled. **Prov. 9:13** – a loud and demanding woman.
- 10- Instill confidence, be encouraging. Make your mate feel important. **Prov. 31:23, 11:16 & 22**
- 11- Keep the marriage fresh. It is easy to get into a rush and miss the fun parts. Time gets filled and seems hard to catch. There are often thoughtful gestures that take only a few moments longer. Take time to be alone with your mate. He occasionally needs your undivided attention. **Prov. 18:22**
- 12 – **1 Cor. 13** defines love: patient, kind, not envious, not egotistical, not selfish, not suspicious, wants to believe the best, wants the mate to do well, believes, hopes & endures. That is a full plate, but isn’t it what we want and need from our husbands as well?
- 13- All of us need a chance to “start again”. Where would we be if GOD held us accountable to the same state of perfection that we sometimes expect from our husbands? It’s easy to get into a rut of expecting the negatives. **Prov. 14:1, 15:1**

(c) Spiritual: Two people cannot pull in the same direction when they are following paths to separate goals. If our goal is heaven why would we want to place ourselves under someone who is not trying to get there? We are still under the man we married and it becomes our struggle to try to influence and teach him. **1Pet. 3:1** admonishes the wife of an unbelieving husband to teach her mate by translating GOD’s word into her life. Even in marrying someone who is a member of the LORD’s body there can be struggles when one partner is stronger than the other. We need to encourage and help our young ladies to be wise in their choices.

#### V. What can “I” do to help stop divorce in our community?

##### (a) Obey Scriptures

- 1-How did GOD plan for young women to learn about being a wife? **Titus 2:3-4**  
From the older Christian women
- 2-What things are the older ladies to teach the younger?  
Good things, to be discreet, chaste, keepers at home, good, obedient to their own husbands
- 3- What is GOD’s law concerning separation? **Matt. 19:3-9**  
We must be careful in encouraging someone to remarry who has no right in GOD’s eyes. We are condemning them. It should never be said;” She finally found someone who will be good to her” unless she has the scriptural right. It is a serious matter to be put in charge over training by the GOD of the universe. Women are accountable to teach the truth on marriage to younger women.
- 4- **Chronicles 16:9** –“For the eyes of the LORD run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to shew himself strong in the behalf of them whose heart is perfect toward him.”  
Let’s go out and let the LORD find us working for Him in the area of our marriage and training others to do it His way!