



Family and Marriage

Chapter 1

Audio Lesson: FAM01



Objective: To introduce what the Bible says about marriage and family.



So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them. God blessed them and said to them, “Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it.”

—Genesis 1:27-28

Then the Lord said, “It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper fit for him.”

—Genesis 2:18

Unless the Lord builds the house, its builders labor in vain.

—Psalm 127:1

All through the creation account, God looked at what He created and said, “It is good.” But when He saw that the man He created was alone, He said, “It is not good.” This man was incomplete without a partner. So God created a woman, joined man and woman together as one, and told them to fill the earth with their children.

The Bible gives us God's design and purposes for marriage and family. It tells us how to have a marriage in the sight of God, a marriage put together by God, a marriage brought together by God, and a marriage kept together by God. It also tells us how to raise our children and have strong families.

There are many benefits for us in learning what the Bible says about marriage and family. Next to salvation, a happy marriage and home are the most wonderful things in the world. But what does marriage mean to God? Why did He institute marriage? Why did He create us male and female? The answer is that God wanted to populate the earth with people who love Him and His kingdom.



1. True or false? Marriage and family are a law of life that fulfills God's purposes for the world.
2. True or false? Women have a role in completing men, and men have a role in completing women.
3. True or false? God intended for a husband and wife to minister to each other as two whole persons.
4. True or false? Women do not have the same worth as men.

Unless otherwise noted, choose one answer for each question.

5. Who came up with the idea of marriage?
 - a. God
 - b. Adam
 - c. Ancient cultures
 - d. Modern society
6. How does the Bible describe the relationship between husband and wife?
 - a. They become one person with no distinction between them.
 - b. They remain two completely separate people.
 - c. They become "one flesh," or two distinct people united as one.

7. How does the Bible address the members of a family about their roles?
 - a. It tells them to focus on each other's attitudes and behavior.
 - b. It tells them to focus on their own attitudes and behavior.
 - c. It does not really matter because family is not a priority.
8. What is the basic unit through which God works?
 - a. Individual people working independently
 - b. The family
 - c. The church
 - d. The government
9. Which partner in a marriage is superior?
 - a. The man
 - b. The woman
 - c. Neither—they are equal.
10. According to Solomon in Psalm 127, who is the most important person in the family—or in any endeavor?
 - a. The man who leads
 - b. The one who works hardest
 - c. Children
 - d. The Lord
11. How did Solomon describe parenting?
 - a. Raising children is like shooting arrows with a bow.
 - b. Being a parent is like being a watchman who stands guard.
 - c. Being a parent involves many nights without sleep.
 - d. Children are like warriors who always fight.
12. What was God's original intention for marriage?
 - a. For it to be an easy relationship with no effort involved
 - b. For it to be a temporary relationship
 - c. For it to be a permanent relationship
 - d. For it to be between any two people, no matter what gender
13. How do we let God build our marriage and family?
 - a. By worrying about it
 - b. By realizing we cannot do it on our own and by depending on God
 - c. By actively pursuing our own plans
 - d. By always working and never sleeping
14. What is God's definition of a marriage?
 - a. Any two people who love each other.
 - b. Any two people who have children.
 - c. A man and a woman who are joined together by God.
 - d. A man and a woman who get married in a church.

Unless the Lord builds the house, its builders labor in vain. Unless the Lord watches over the city, the watchmen stand guard in vain. In vain you rise early and stay up late, toiling for food to eat—for he grants sleep to those he loves. Sons are a heritage from the Lord, children a reward from him. Like arrows in the hands of a warrior are sons born in one's youth. Blessed is the man whose quiver is full of them. They will not be put to shame when they contend with their enemies in the gate.

—Psalm 127



What are God's desires for marriage and family? What are your desires for marriage and family? How do you think He wants to use your family life to further His purposes in the world?

One of the greatest problems in Christian marriages today is men who will not accept their God-given responsibility to be the head of the home and the spiritual leader—the priest of their home. Husbands, how are you doing in leading and loving your wife as Jesus loves? What can you do today and this week to become the husband and father God wants you to be?



Thank God for the wonderful gifts of marriage and family. Ask Him to prepare your heart for this study and to teach you about His purposes and plans for your life and relationships. Pray that He would strengthen your faith and family relationships for His glory.



Going Deeper

1. Who created the idea and institution of marriage? _____

2. What is the “law of marriage and family”? _____

3. Why is this law under attack today? _____

4. What are the three levels of the pyramid of marriage and family, and why is each important? _____

5. What is the basic unit that God works through in the world? _____

6. Why is it essential to put God into our marriages? _____

7. What is the basis on which we should make the decision to marry? _____
