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A Theology of the Family

No. 2 - Marriage
Selected Scriptures

Family

As family is foundational to all of human society, so *marriage* is foundational to family...

Marriage

We are a church family, unified together, yet made up of people with different life circumstances (family designations)...

All of us—no matter what our particular, present life circumstances—have the responsibility to steward faithfully our present life circumstances, and all in concert with our church family...

Each of us, too, should also seek to be aware of the life circumstances of others, and do what we can to walk beside them, praying for them and encouraging them in ways that are appropriate given their particular, present life circumstances...

If you're married, and you think your marriage is doing well...

If you're married, and you think your marriage *isn't* doing well...

If you *used* to be married, but aren't now...

If you've never been married, but may be in the future...

No. 2 – Marriage

Selected Scriptures

Seven descriptions of marriage according to the Bible:

- **Marriage is GOD'S**

Genesis 1:26-28; 2:5-9, 15-25 (especially, v. 24)

Marriage is...a man leaving his father and mother, and holding fast to his wife, and the two becoming one flesh, before and by God

Marriage is...intentional (a man leaves), commitment (holds fast), possessive (to his wife), and exclusive (and the two shall become one flesh)

Matthew 19:4-6 (even, vv. 7-10)

If marriage is GOD'S, then...

- **Marriage is FOR...**

Genesis 1:26-28; 2:22; 3:20; 4:1, 25

The purposes of marriage: to multiply, for companionship, to help each other, and for satisfaction (cf. Proverbs 5, Song of Solomon, 1 Corinthians 7)

Ephesians 5:28-32

If marriage is FOR, then...

- **Marriage is COVENANT**

Malachi 2:14-15

Marriage is a covenant...between a husband and his wife, made before the Lord, with the expectation and responsibility to remain faithful, which needs encouragement and motivation

See also, Jeremiah 34:18 for the seriousness of making ("cutting") a covenant.

Romans 7:1-3

If marriage is COVENANT, then...

- **Marriage is NORMAL**

Luke 20:34-36

Marriage is very much a part of *this* age...

See also, Matthew 24:37-38 as an example.

1 Timothy 4:1-3

See also, Titus 2:3-5 as an example.

If marriage is NORMAL, then...

- **Marriage is POWERFUL...**

Song of Solomon 8:6-7

1 Corinthians 7:1-5

If marriage is POWERFUL, then...

- **Marriage is WORK**

Genesis 3:16-19

Colossians 3:1-19

If marriage is WORK, then...

- **Marriage is TEMPORARY**

Luke 20:34-36

1 Corinthians 7:12-16, 39-40

If marriage is TEMPORARY, then...