

Week 8: Marriage Wrap-up // Affirmation

MARRIAGE QUIZ

True or False:

1. The Bible defines marriage as a contract between two believers. _____
2. Love can overcome any troubles in marriage. _____
3. The Bible commands a husband to love his wife and a wife to respect her husband. _____
4. We will not be married in heaven. _____
5. My spouse can make me angry. _____
6. Happiness is the key to a successful marriage. _____
7. There is a crisis in marriage today. _____
8. God wouldn't want me to stay in an unhappy marriage. _____
9. God wants us to be able to manage our fleshly behaviors in our marriage. _____
10. God's Word describes His relationship with us in marital terms. _____
11. Compromise is critical to a healthy marriage. _____
12. The Bible says if you marry, you will face many troubles in this life. _____
13. Forgiveness means forgetting. _____

Short Answer:

14. What is God's purpose for marriage?

15. What is the source of conflict in marriage?

16. What is the secret to a successful marriage?

17. Name three things God's Word requires of the husband:

18. Name two things God's Word requires of a wife:

19. Genesis 2:24 is described as the Leave and Cleave verse. What does that mean?

20. What is the difference between forgiveness and reconciliation?

Marriage Lesson Summaries

Lesson One: Marriage Myths & Truths

1. Marriage is designed by God – a sacred covenant, not a contract
2. The world view is full of lies about marriage; we need to speak God's truth about marriage
3. Our horizontal relationship with each other reflects our vertical relationship with God
4. We need to be diligent in nurturing our marriage relationship

Lesson Two: Communication and Conflict Resolution

1. How we communicate reflects our relationship with God
2. We need to be diligent in nurturing our marriage relationship
3. Remember Team Us
4. Attack the Problem, not the Person
5. Thorns of Flesh vs. Fruit of the Spirit

Lesson Three: Roles

1. God's Word has very specific Guidance to Husbands and Wives
2. Husbands need Respect and Wives need Love; Not Wrong Just Different
3. Submit to one another out of Reverence to Christ
4. Hollywood or Holy Word? Listening to script or Scripture?

Lesson Four: Forgiveness & Reconciliation

1. The heart of God is for Forgiveness AND Reconciliation
2. Unforgiveness breeds bitterness, anger, regret, hard-heartedness
3. Forgiveness does not mean I forget
4. Reconciliation is a process that may or may not lead to restoration
5. Forgiveness takes one person, reconciliation takes two

Lesson 5: Divorce

1. God hates Divorce, but He loves the divorced!
2. God desires forgiveness and reconciliation
3. Remember the purpose of marriage: to make us holy
4. Remember Genesis 2:24 – the Goal is TEAM US! 1+1= 1
5. Divorce is a personal decision; never a divine mandate
6. God can Redeem ALL THINGS

Lesson 6: Affirmation and Legacy

1. Every marriage needs recurring Affirmation
2. Hope for leaving a lasting legacy is through the gospel of Jesus Christ
3. Your marriage is a picture of the gospel to a watching world
4. Marital relationships and family are the central glue holding civilization together

AFFIRMATION EXERCISE- for my spouse

1. **Talents:** (abilities like music, decorating, carpentry or cooking.) *I love your creativity, how you sing, your ability to solve puzzles, your self-discipline, how you create amazing meals, how you love to BBQ, your ability to create a budget and handle numbers, your ability to sew and create quilts, your ability to create detailed plans, or detailed travel agendas, your ability to research, your ability to write or capture thoughts on paper, your ability to fix things, to rebuild engines, your artistic nature, how you make things out of everyday stuff, your eye for detail, your eye for decorating, I love your spontaneous attitude*
2. **Gifts:** (characteristics listed in Scripture, such as teaching, hospitality, service, or wisdom) *I love how you lead our family, how you handle God's Word, how you pray for our family, how you teach our kids from God's Word, how you try to understand me and let me express myself, your patience, your kindness and gentleness, your strong faith, your insight and discernment, your wisdom, your gifts of administration and organization, your self-discipline and follow-through, your joy for life, your positive attitude*
3. **Strengths:** (might be something like a good decision maker, make people laugh) *I love your sense of humor and how you make people laugh, you're a man of honor who stands for what is right, you're a woman of great resolve, your word is your bond, you see things in a positive light, your cup is always half full, you have a strong sense of loyalty, you are an encourager, you take charge of situations when others might shy away, you care deeply for your family and loved ones, you sacrifice for your family, you make people feel welcome, you put people at ease, you're a good conversationalist; you make every place feel like home, you bring out the best in people around you*

NOTES ON LEGACY

What legacy do you want to leave?

What do you want others to say about your marriage?

What does your vision for your marriage look like?

- Hope for leaving a lasting legacy is through the gospel of Jesus Christ
- Your marriage is a picture of the gospel to a watching world
- Marital relationships are the central glue holding civilization together

Our Legacy Pledge

Recognizing that our relationship with each other is a critical part of the spiritual legacy God has called us to pass on to the next generation, and that God has placed within us a desire for purpose, meaning, and significance, we make this pledge today, before God, to move forward in building a lasting legacy for our family and the generations to follow:

Husband's Pledge

I pledge to you today that, with God's help, I will make our marriage the priority that it is meant to be. I will love and lead you. I will protect and provide for you.
I will nourish and cherish you.

Wife's Pledge

I pledge to you today that, with God's help, I will make our marriage the priority that it is meant to be. I will be your helper and encourager.
I will respect you. I will support you and cheer you on.

Husband and Wife Pledge

We will remember that our commitment to each other will have an impact on future generations. We will persevere through painful times and press on to the end of our lives together. We will live for something greater than our own brief existence. From this day forward, our marriage will be more about leaving a lasting legacy than pacifying our passing pleasures.

We commit, from this day forward, to put a "stake in the ground."
We give our lives over completely to God—every dream, every possession, every relationship—and ask Him to guide us in every decision we make, for our sake and for the sake of our family and the generations that will be affected by the choices we make this day.

Signed _____ Date _____

Signed _____ Date _____

FAMILYLIFE®

