

Marriage: The purpose of marriage is to reflect the relationship of Jesus and the church. **Biblical view of marriage is a sacred and permanent covenant witnessed by God.**

Covenant reveals God's saving grace. God chose to enter into a solemn covenant of love with you. Not based on what you deserved but freely given even though not always received.

Deuteronomy 7:7-9 He is faithful, keeping His covenant of love to a thousand generations.

To help you understand His covenant God paralleled it to marriage. Marriage covenant is characterized by love, compassion, faithfulness.

Marriage covenant is of faith. This MARRIAGE COVENANT can only be made by a man , and a woman who share a common faith in God. Faith in God who joined you together, and faith knowing God will give you the courage to make your marriage work.

THINKING ABOUT MARRIAGE?

Consider fully if you are prepared to enter into a lifelong , sacred and permanent covenant.

COVENANTAL COMPATIBILITY IS more important than personal compatibility.

Mark 10:5-9 Jesus said to them, "He wrote this command for you because you're heartless. But God made them male and female in the beginning, at creation. That's why a man will leave his father and mother and will remain united with his wife, and the two will be one. So they are no longer two but one. ⁹Therefore, don't let anyone separate what God has joined together."

(ONLY divorce under certain circumstances) **NOT ONE SPIRIT, ONE FLESH.**

"Jesus is the mediator of a better covenant, which is based on better promises" (Hebrews 8:6-8). This lets us know, if we want God's involvement in our lives we must then comply with the covenant Jesus Christ has mediated to us.

NO Covenant = means no mediation by Jesus....strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world" (Ephesians 2:1-3, 11-12).

Nobody would want to be without a relationship with God, would they?

WITH THE COVENANT of Christ We live the good life (Ephesians 2:4-10, Ephesians 2:18-22).

COVENANT IS ALL OF GOD> FOR ALL OF YOU.

Marriage is a sacred and permanent covenant witnessed by God.

Genesis 2:18 Now the Lord God said, "It is not good (beneficial) for the man to be alone; I will make him a helper [one who balances him—a counterpart who is] suitable *and* complementary for him (*like his opposite*). **Yes Women and Men are different Thats the attraction! We compliment each other. NOT COMPETE!**Ephesians 5:21-33.

WHAT IF >>>> we lived our marriage out like we were married to Christ ?

.....How do you think they would respond to you?

TALKER/LISTENER (STOP trying to WIN and take time to COMMUNE)

Communication (1 Peter 3:7-10) both talking and listening. Applying love in accepting by sharing and connecting, showing the other person you value them. **BE HONEST** about what you are about to say/hear and that you both agree to cooperate, each of you will get a turn in both roles. All the unresolved conflict/lack of God in your relationship causes a marriage to fall apart.

ANGER has no place (Ephesians 4:26-27).

In using these TALK/LISTEN Cards you should ask each other in your group:

- **Do we agree we want to work together to communicate better?**
- **Do we trust each other?**

Poor communication blocks the way for a more deeper relationship. With your spouse, your family and GOD.

Resources: Bible,



Love & Respect book



The 5 Love Languages