The Design of Marriage

❖ Gaining a Biblical Perspective

Before asking why a couple wants to get married, we need to ask what are God’s purposes for marriage. Even more foundational, we need to think through the reason God created man and woman.

The Couple

* Most people recreate their marriages after their own purposes in life. They think of what they want and then pursue it. If we seek pleasure and happiness, we will miss God’s goal for our marriage.
  • What is God’s purpose for your marriage?
  • How does marriage and family relate to each other?

The Husbands

* Men rarely think about what God wants for their lives. They tend to innately follow their wants and pursue their desires.
  • What is God’s purposes for man?
  • Is this the same in the New Testament era? Is there any change?
  • How do you know (Colossians 1:9-13; Mat 28:18-20; Titus 2:2, 6-8)?

The husbands need to proactively seek God’s grace and purpose for their marriages and families if they are to establish good marriages.
The Wives

* Woman was created before the entrance of sin into the world.
  
  - How did the creation of woman fit into God’s overall purpose for mankind?
  - Is this the same in the New Testament era? Is there any change?
  - How do you know (Genesis 2:18-25; 1 Timothy 2:1-15; Titus 2:3-5)?

The wife’s major calling from God are to be helpmates to their husbands. They need to adjust their time, life and schedule so that they can help their husbands excel.

♦ Quotes on Marriage

- *Marriage is God’s invention.*
- *Marriage is an excellent gift, a most beautiful reward.*
- *Marriage is to be the most intimate and satisfying of relationships.*
- *Marriage is designed to supply comfort in a cold and wicked world.*
- *Marriage is fashioned to be the context of morally and spiritually replenishing our lives.*