

# **The Marriage Relationship**

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I. Introduction.

II. God had specific goals for marriage, and one of them was happiness.

A. With all man had at creation, he was lonely without woman. (Genesis 1-3)

B. We do not enjoy the kind of marriage relationship God meant to give us because of sin. Sin always separates from God.

C. Jesus Christ came to restore our relationship with God. When this happens with a husband and wife, their marriage relationship can begin to blossom.

D. God will give you eyes to be a better husband or wife and to understand your spouse better.

III. God created men and women to complement each other.

IV. Study your spouse.

V. Be forgiving.

VI. Marriage begins with us.

VII. Our understanding is important. (Proverbs 24:3)

A. Men tend to be more objective, and women tend to be more subjective.

B. Men tend to see the big picture, and women tend to see the little details.

C. Men tend to identify with their life's work, while women tend to see their home as an extension of their personality.

D. Men use speech to convey facts, while women tend to use speech to convey feelings.

### **Application questions:**

1. What was the purpose of marriage? How does Jesus fit into that?

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2. What are some ways you can better understand your spouse?

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3. Can some of the general differences between men and women help you to work through your own marital differences? Explain?

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