

## **Answers About Marriage**

*Jack and Carole Mayhall*

### **I. Introduction.**

- A. One of the things that makes marriage difficult is that it is daily.
- B. Marriage is an exciting adventure, but it is not easy.

### **II. Realistic characteristics to look for in a spouse.**

- A. He or she must be a believer. (2 Corinthians 6:14)
- B. He or she must have the same goals (personal growth, spiritual growth, children and money)
- C. He or she must have a good sense of humor.
- D. He or she must really accept you (and not just want to change you) and they must not be rigid toward you. (Ephesians 4:32)

### **III. Two essentials for a happy marriage.**

- A. You must work at it.
- B. You must give God his rightful place in your life.

### **IV. Being the right person is just as important to choosing the right person in marriage.**

### **V. Preparing for marriage.**

- A. God is the foundation. He must be the one who meets your needs. (Ephesians 3:14)
- B. We need to ask God for help to know ourselves and our spouses. Men and women are different. (James 1:5)
- C. We need to learn to work through conflict.

### **VI. Conflict.**

- A. Spouses need to deal with the little things before they explode.
- B. Conflict is important for understanding one another.

### **VII. God gave the marriage relationship so that spouses could sharpen one another. (1 Corinthians 12, Proverbs 27:17)**

**Application questions:**

1. How would you counsel someone looking for advice on picking the right marriage partner?

---

---

2. What do you need to do personally to prepare for marriage?

---

---

3. What are some of the differences between men and women that you need to prepare for?

---

---