

Biblical Marriage Study

Written by Dr. George Kuykendall for Officers' Christian Fellowship

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Study #9

What the Bible says about biblical marriage.

Last time we discussed the husband's role in marriage. This time we will wrap up this series with an overview of what biblical marriage looks like.

Someone read Ecclesiastes 9:9. Were you surprised by the encouragement to “enjoy life” together? How might this be done?

Someone read Galatians 5:22-23. What does the term “fruit of the spirit” mean as it applies to the believer?

Fruit is the observable evidence of the presence of the Holy Spirit in the life of a believer. In one sense it is a measure of the presence of the Holy Spirit controlling the life of the believer.

What if there is no fruit evident in the life of a person?

The Holy Spirit might not be there.

The second fruit listed in Galatians 5:22 is joy. What does joy mean?

It is a spiritual quality deeper than happiness. It is based in assurance and confidence which is rooted in faith in Jesus as Lord.

How important is joy to our day-by-day witness?

How and when might joy manifest itself in the life of a believer?

When is joy the most evident?

Can joy be put on or shifted into gear as a matter of will?

In Ecclesiastes 9:9 “enjoy life with your wife” is a command...an imperative. Husbands, in what ways might you change your life to better practice being responsive to this command?

Wives, what are some suggestions to help your husbands enjoy life with you?

What is the message from God concerning His expectations about our marriages?

Someone read 1 Peter 3:7. What are the admonitions in this Scripture?

Be considerate as you live with your wife.

Treat your wife with respect as the weaker partner and fellow Christian.

What is the meaning of the word *considerate* here?

*To take account of your wife as a person who has her own needs and desires.
To treat her as a partner of value and worth.*

Husbands, share some examples of occasions when you have been considerate of your wives.

Wives, how would you most like for your husbands to be considerate?

What is the implication of the phrase “as you live with your wives?”

God intends for a couple to live their lives as a team. To “live” with one’s spouse is to maximize life as God intended it. “Living” in this manner involves being creative and growing in relationship with God and with each other throughout our lives.

What are the possible meanings of *weaker*?

Muscle power

Size

Some scholars believe the term refers to being more delicate and complex in psychological makeup, therefore more sensitive to stimuli in the emotional and relational realms.

What are some things a husband might do to provide for his wife’s security...

...in a physical sense?

Protect her from danger. Provide for her physical protection when he is away.

...in a psychological sense?

*Meet her need for time together when she feels weak, depressed or vulnerable.
Communicating to affirm her and help her feel as if she is a full partner in his life.*

...in a spiritual sense?

Study the Bible with her. Pray with and for her. Arrange for significant spiritual learning experiences as a couple.

Define “the gracious gift of life.”

The spiritual life. The life which is made possible because of God’s great provision—Jesus. God has made it possible for us to be His children, members of His family. God has a purpose for our lives.

How would you summarize the important elements of this study?