

God and Marriage: God the Holy Spirit and Marriage

https://renew.org/bible-verses-about-marriage/?mc_cid=a64b985b52&mc_eid=16c849981e

https://renew.org/marriage-relationships/?mc_cid=a64b985b52&mc_eid=16c849981e

Warren Brosi

May 3, 2026

Dominant Thought: The Holy Spirit leads us to better relationships.

Objectives:

I want my listeners to understand the promise, command, and invitation from the Holy Spirit.

I want my listeners to feel encouraged by how the Holy Spirit helps us in our relationships.

I want my listeners to choose one of the three images: home, temple, spring to compare to a relationship.

You've heard the saying, "Hindsight is 20/20." It comes from learning after an experience. People say the first year of marriage is the hardest. Two people coming together as one. You learn about your spouse's irritating habits like picking their toenails, leaving the seat up on the toilet, which way to reset the toilet paper. Who's doing the dishes, who's balancing the checkbook? Why aren't you staying within the budget? How could you forget our date night? Some would say, "If I knew then, what I know now..." While we can't go back and change the past, I'm confident with the Holy Spirit's help we can allow Him to change our present which will lead us to a better future. The Holy Spirit's help is available to everyone who will accept His lead in their lives whether you are single or married, widowed, or divorced. In our time together, we will explore *how the Holy Spirit guides relationships*. We will discover a promise in the gospel of John, a pair of commands in 1 Corinthians, and an invitation in Revelation.

First, The Holy Spirit promises to make a home in you ([John 14.15-21](#)).

In [John 14.17](#), we read, “But you know Him [the Spirit of truth], for He lives with you and will be in you.” The word, “lives,” can be translated as “dwells” or “abides.” It is a favorite word of the apostle John—used 40 times in the gospel of John. Over 1/3 of the occurrences are in the gospel of John. It carries the idea of remain or stay. Do those words have any help for marriages? █

As we think of the idea of staying or remaining in the same place, we have the picture of a home. This word for dwelling helps us understand the relationship between Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. In [John 14:10](#), Jesus said, “Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own authority, but the Father who dwells in me does his works.” If the Father is in the Son and the Son in the Father, and if the Son sends the Spirit to live in the followers of Jesus, then we have an image of God making His home with us. [John 14](#) opens with Jesus encouraging His disciples not to let their hearts be troubled. Then He says, “My Father’s house has many rooms” ([John 14.2](#)). It is the same word for dwelling. █

Later in John, we have these descriptions of the Holy Spirit. In [John 14.25-27](#), the Holy Spirit will teach disciples all things and remind disciples of the teachings of Jesus. █

John 14:25–27 NIV █

“All this I have spoken while still with you. But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.” █

Then, Jesus again reminds His disciples of the gift of His Holy Spirit in [John 16.13](#). The Holy Spirit will guide disciples into all truth. █

John 16:13 ESV █

“When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth, for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you the things that are to come.” █

Jesus makes a promise to send the Holy Spirit to make His home with us. The Holy Spirit teaches, reminds, and guides us into all truth. We need His presence in our lives. |

Have you thought about how the Holy Spirit renovates your heart? He is a Holy Spirit. He keeps a clean house. |

Evelyn Underhill wrote in *The Spiritual Life*, “When God comes to us, He comes with His work clothes on and His tools in hand.” When we have that argument with a spouse in the living room, that’s when we need the Spirit to come with His work clothes on and His tools in hand to give us patience and self-control. The Spirit’s presence in our home will help us navigate the relational struggles we have with our spouse or others. |

As we read in [Psalm 111](#) earlier in the worship gathering, God keeps His covenant forever ([Psalm 111.5, 9](#)). When we said, “I do,” to follow Jesus, we know He’s keeping His vow to us. What changes need to happen in our lives so we can enjoy a deeper relationship with our heavenly Father, with our spouse, or any other relationship that needs to grow? Are you staying close to Jesus? |

Second, the Holy Spirit commands us to honor God with our bodies as a temple ([1 Corinthians 6.12-20](#)).

If we don’t deal with creeping resentment in our marriages and relationships, then we experience cracks in the foundation. The Apostle Paul gives some clear instructions for marriages when we forsake God’s plans for healthy relationships and healthy marriages. |

The Apostle Paul gives some very clear commands by reminding the church in Corinth that their bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit. Through this letter to Corinth, Paul addresses sexual ethics. He addresses a sin in their church in [1 Corinthians 5](#). A son is having a sexual relationship with his stepmom. The church is proud of it. Paul tells them, even the pagans don’t have that type of immorality. In [1 Corinthians 7](#), Paul gives instructions to both married and singles, to those who are widowed. He speaks to many situations and gives counsel on marriage. |

Then, in [1 Corinthians 6.12](#), Paul seems to say something that would be in a commercial or an advertisement before the next YouTube video plays. He says, “I have the right to do anything...but not everything is beneficial.” Then, he says, “I will not be mastered by anything.” He talks

about food for the stomach and the stomach for food. God will destroy them both. |

Next, Paul turns his attention to the body. He says, “The body, however, is not meant for sexual immorality but for the Lord and the Lord for the body” ([1 Corinthians 6.13](#)). In the next verse, Paul highlights the power of Easter, the resurrection of Jesus. “By His power God raised the Lord from the dead, and he will raise us also” ([1 Corinthians 6.14](#)). Our bodies are members of Christ. He’s taking imagery from the gospel of John. Our bodies are homes for Jesus. Should we unite the members of Jesus with a prostitute? Paul answers his question, “Never!” Then, Paul says one who unites with a prostitute is one with her in body. Then, Paul quotes [Genesis 2.24](#), a verse we have read a couple of times during this series. |

Genesis 2:24 NIV |

That is why a man leaves his father and mother and is united to his wife, and they become one flesh. |

However, Paul turns our attention to oneness with the Lord. “Whoever is united with the Lord is one with Him in spirit” ([1 Corinthians 6.17](#)). It could also read, “one with Him in the Spirit.” It could be a reference to the Holy Spirit. |

Paul concludes this section with two commands that bookend [1 Corinthians 6.18-20](#). Command #1: Flee sexuality immorality. Command #2: Honor God with your bodies. In between these commands is a beautiful reminder, “your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God. You are not your own; you were bought at a price.” Before going to these two commands, let’s focus on [1 Corinthians 6.19](#). Our bodies are temples. Have you thought about that? |

In Corinth, they had temples and cults to goddesses and gods such as Aphrodite and Poseidon. The Corinthians would have seen the connection Paul was making. It would have turned their worldview upside down. For those who are in Christ, the Spirit of God dwells inside of you. The temple was the place where heaven and earth met. It was where people would go to meet God and God would meet with people. It was the best and most holy place on the earth. |

I have a lot of favorite places on this earth. This week, I’ll choose the mountains of Colorado. I love the crisp clean mountain air. I love the smell

of the Ponderosa pine trees. I love the shimmer of the Aspen leaves. I love how the mountains make us feel small and God seems so big. That's one of my favorite places. What's your favorite place? As great as all those places are, God just might say, "You are my favorite place on the planet." After all, we are created in His image. Paul says, "We are temples of the Holy Spirit."

Then, Paul says, "You are not your own." Earlier he said, "I have the right to do anything." Now, he says, "You don't own your body." It makes sense since we were created in the image of God. We are a gift from God to our mom and dad created from a beautiful act of love. Then, Paul declares, "you were bought at a price." That's the gospel. In [Revelation 5:9](#),

Revelation 5:9 NIV

And they sang a new song, saying: "You are worthy to take the scroll and to open its seals, because you were slain, and with your blood you purchased for God persons from every tribe and language and people and nation."

"Grace practiced as well as grace received is not cheap" (Geoffrey Bromiley, *God and Marriage*, p. 69).

We are purchased by God and have a responsibility to our owner, our Lord. Those responsibilities are: 1) Flee sexual immorality and 2) Honor or Glorify God with your bodies. When we understand the heart of God for us, then we have an appreciation for His commands. He wants what is best for us. Sexual immorality is any sexual sin. It shares the same root as "pornography." Flee or run away. Just as Joseph in the Old Testament ran out of the house naked when Potiphar's wife tried to seduce him to sleep with her, so we must put our running shoes on to run away from immorality so we can run to our Father and healthy loving relationships. Give people your passwords. Let your wife know where you are going after work. Talk with a brother or sister if you need to confess or ask for support when you find yourself struggling. "The Holy Spirit does not lead into adultery but away from it. Hence the new life in Christ for which the Spirit empowers us will be one in which adultery has no place" (Geoffrey Bromiley, *God and Marriage*, p. 55).

We honor God with our body by remembering His Spirit lives in us. We remember what should or should not enter our bodies. God wants what is

best for us. We honor God with our bodies by engaging in healthy meaningful relationships. |

The Holy Spirit leads us to better relationships. |

The Holy Spirit promises to make His home with us. That home is actually a temple where the Spirit of God dwells. Based on that promise, the Holy Spirit commands us to flee sexual immorality and honor God with our bodies. The Holy Spirit helps us in another way by offering an invitation. |

Third, the Holy Spirit invites us to the free gift of a life-giving spring ([Revelation 22.12-17](#)). |

As we come to the final words of the Bible, we hear that Jesus is coming soon. He's the first and the last and will give to each person according to what they have done. |

A blessing is given to those who wash their robes, that they may eat from the tree of life. That same tree we met in [Genesis 2](#). Outside the gates of the city are the sexually immoral and those who dishonor God's covenant. Jesus identifies Himself through His family line of David. |

Then, the Spirit and the bride offer an invitation in [Revelation 22.17](#). I think the bride represents the people of God. |

The Bible begins and ends with a marriage. Christopher West said, "God wants to marry His people." In Revelation, two cities are contrasted. Babylon represents the enemies of God. Jerusalem represents the people of God. In the closing chapters, Babylon is described as a prostitute dressed in purple and scarlet ([Revelation 17.1, 4](#)). Jerusalem is dressed as a beautiful bride dressed for her husband ([Revelation 21.2](#)). Babylon is drunk with the blood of God's holy people ([Revelation 17.6](#)). The nations are drunk with the wine of her adulteries ([Revelation 18.3](#)). But the Spirit and the bride invite us to drink from the water of life ([Revelation 22.17](#)). |

At Roaring River State Park, south of Cassville, MO, where my parents live, is a spring. It feeds the trout hatchery. On the opening day of trout season each spring, anglers are lined up shoulder to shoulder. School cancels on the opening day of trout season. The spring that feeds Roaring River gushes forth 20 million gallons of water each day. That's not even the largest freshwater spring in our nation. Up

the road a few hours is Big Spring, MO. It produces 293 million gallons a day. Then, there's Rainbow Springs, FL producing 490 million gallons of water every day. I'm amazed at how those springs never run out of water.

Friends, stop trying to fill your thirst with something God will not bless. Stop drinking salt water that you think will quench your thirst. Does your marriage feel more like a desert instead of a life-giving spring? Are the words in your home sharp and pointed instead of tender and refreshing? Invite the Holy Spirit to guide your thoughts and actions to become life-giving. The Holy Spirit can refill your soul through His Word, the Bible. Through healthy friendships. Through worship. |

Come to the holy waters that God provides. Come to this wedding banquet for God's people. |

God wants to dwell with you through His Spirit now and forever. That home is a temple of the Spirit of God that commands us to flee sexual immorality and honor God with our bodies. The question for us to consider is will we accept the invitation of the Holy Spirit and the bride of Christ to enjoy the free satisfying gift. A life-giving spring that will refresh us and all who will come. |

When you receive a wedding invitation, you have a couple of options. You can accept the invitation and attend the wedding. Or you can say, "No. I'm busy or I'm not that close to you or I'll send you a gift from your registry." If God wants to marry His people, then He's extending an invitation to you. How will you respond today? |

Will you accept the Holy Spirit's invitation to refresh and renew your marriage? Will you accept the Holy Spirit's invitation to clean your house? Will you accept the Holy Spirit's invitation to deep and meaningful relationships? **The Holy Spirit leads us to better relationships.**