



Understanding Marriage

For Teens/Young Adults

Best Use

As an intentional discussion guide to mentor your child toward a God-honoring marriage.

Nutritional Value

Parents, through intentional conversation, will encourage their child to think about the covenant of marriage, some ways marriage is viewed in our culture, and what God says about marriage along with His reasoning for marriage.

Advance Preparation

- Schedule a time and place where you can be comfortable visiting with your teen.
- Have your Bible/Smartphone handy to read pertinent scriptures and read the scriptures before the discussion to prepare any personal notes you want to share.

Discussion guide on the steps to marriage:

Marriage reflects God's very image.

- Together husband and wife mirror God's image in a lifetime commitment to one other.
- Their oneness reflects His character and is a picture of the relationship between Jesus and His followers. Mathew 19:4-6, John 17:22-23, Ephesians 5:22-33

Marriage enables couples to mutually complete/compliment one another.

- We have a longing for a close intimate relationship and God wants us to have a companion. Genesis 2:18
 - *The first social institution*
 - *The priority relationship of the family*
- Young couples must learn to consider their spouse BEFORE they consider themselves. Philippians 2:3-4

Marriage was designed with children in mind, so husbands and wives would multiply a godly legacy.

- Neither men nor women are made to raise children by themselves.
- Children need to see a harmonious marriage modeled by their parents.
- Children come to understand unconditional love as it's demonstrated in the home.

Marriage and its purposes are opposed by Satan.

- Satan wants us independent from God. Isaiah 14:12-14, Ezekiel 28:12-18
- Marriage is in the middle of this spiritual battleground. Genesis 3:1-6
- Consequences for willfully choosing independence from God:
 - Shame v7
 - Guilt v8
 - Fear vs9-10
 - Blame shifting vs11-14
 - Battle for control vs15-16
- Satan's purposes are threatened by couples becoming one, so he attacks marriage. Ephesians 6:12

*Pray with your child to have wisdom to navigate this world by looking to the **Word** and not to the world.*