



The Steps to 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 commitment and process that occurs in a marriage covenant.

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:

Leave - Genesis 2:24

- Establish independence from your parents in an honoring way, including financial independence.
- Your relationship with your spouse becomes the primary relationship on which you depend.

Cleave - Genesis 2:18-24

- to adhere firmly, closely, or loyally; cling unwaveringly.
- God said it was not good for Adam to be alone, and He showed Adam this need by providing Eve.
 - *It is foundational for us to understand that we must receive our spouse as God's perfect provision for us as seen in Genesis 2.*
 - *Start praying for your future spouse today!*
- Receiving our spouse is not based on our expectations of him or her. Adam received Eve as she was because he knew and trusted God.

Becoming One Flesh - Genesis 2:24

- Is a process that helps us grow as individuals and as a couple.
- It begins as we break dependence from our past.
- Growing towards oneness allows us to become more together than we ever could be apart.
- Physical intimacy is an expression of this ultimate oneness.

Why is God's Plan Difficult for us to Experience?

- We have natural differences.
- These differences teach us to trust Him and His goodness.
- We have natural weaknesses.
- Weaknesses are not justification for rejecting our spouse.
- We are naturally self-centered.
- Receiving our spouse is demonstrated by placing their needs before our own.
- You must receive (not just accept) your spouse as a gift from God made personally for you.
- To reject your spouse in any way is to:
 - Reject God and his provision for you
 - Reflect negatively on the character of God
 - Demonstrate unbelief and disobedience toward God
 - Fail to fulfill God's plan and purposes for marriage

Pray with your child for their future & for their understanding of God's plan and purposes in marriage.