

**“How Two Become One”**  
**Life’s Most Important Relationships, Part 2**  
**7/26 & 7/29/18**

**Marriage 101**

The first time God declares something is not good is when man is **ALONE**  
Genesis 2:18 (NLT) “Then the Lord God said, ‘It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper who is just right for him.’”

In God’s original design the plan was to have each partner distinct and unique, needing each other and therefore find **FULFILLMENT** with each other

**BIBLICAL** marriage is between a man and a woman – that’s how God created it  
Genesis 2:24 (NAS) “For this reason a man shall leave his father and his mother, and be joined to his wife; and they shall become one flesh.”

God’s design for marriage is a **LIFETIME** commitment with few escape clauses  
Mark 10:7-9 (NIV) “[Jesus]’ ‘For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, <sup>8</sup> and the two will become one flesh.’ So they are no longer two, but one flesh. <sup>9</sup> Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate.”

In God’s design all sex **OUTSIDE** of marriage is **SIN**  
1 Corinthians 7:1-2 (NIV) “Now for the matters you wrote about: ‘It is good for a man not to have sexual relations with a woman.’ <sup>2</sup> But since sexual immorality is occurring, each man should have sexual relations with his own wife, and each woman with her own husband.”

Why did God design marriage this way? Because He...

- **LOVES** and **CARES** about us
- wants to **PROTECT** us (physically, emotionally, mentally, and spiritually)
- knows the way to get maximum **FULFILLMENT** from marriage

1 Corinthians 5:12-13 (NIV) “What business is it of mine to judge those outside the church? Are you not to judge those inside? <sup>13</sup> God will judge those outside.”

**The Question of Today**

Is it possible for two people to stay in love and happily married for a **LIFETIME**?

There is something inside of us that says, it’s **POSSIBLE**; we also think it’s possible for **US**

For some even though we think it’s possible, we don’t think it’s **PROBABLE**

The only requirement for falling in love is a **PULSE**

It’s never been easier to **FALL** in love; it’s never been more difficult to **STAY** in love

Few have seen a **HEALTHY** marriage relationship

We adopt (by default) what’s been **MODELED** for us in a marriage relationship, and it’s almost impossible for us to stay in love

**Four “Musts” for Marriages in God’s Design**

Genesis 2:24-25 (NAS) “For this cause a man shall leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave to his wife; and they shall become one flesh. And the man and his wife were both naked and were not ashamed.”

1. **LEAVE** (Severance)

Genesis 2:24 (NAS) “For this cause a man shall leave his father and his mother,...

This does not mean abandoning, ignoring, mistreating, or cutting off our **PARENTS**

Mark 7:10-13 (LB) “Moses gave you this law from God: ‘Honor your father and mother.’...<sup>11</sup> But you say it is perfectly all right for a man to disregard his needy parents, telling them, ‘Sorry, I can’t help you! For I have given to God what I could have given to you.’ <sup>12-13</sup> And so you break the law of God in order to protect your man-made tradition.”

First loyalty and commitment is no longer to our parents but to our **SPOUSE**

This severance implies no disrespect but rather acknowledges that marriage demands a shift in **PRIORITIES**

One of the greatest gifts parents can give at marriage is to **RELEASE** their child

2. **CLEAVE** (Permanent)

Genesis 2:24-25 (NAS) “For this cause a man shall leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave to his wife;...

Make an agreement with your spouse that divorce is not an option

Matthew 19:6 (NIV) “So they [in marriage] are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate.”

3. **WEAVE** (Unity)

Genesis 2:24-25 (NAS) “For this cause a man shall leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave to his wife; and they shall become one flesh.”

Marriage is the only place where one + one = **ONE**

Don’t confuse unity with **CONFORMITY**

4. **INTIMACY**

Genesis 2:24-25 (NAS) “For this cause a man shall leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave to his wife; and they shall become one flesh. And the man and his wife were both naked and were not ashamed.”

Without severance, permanence and unity there will be no **INTIMACY**

Extra-marital affairs usually begin because a legitimate or perceived need is **NOT MET**

There is no excuse for an **AFFAIR**

A successful, satisfying marriage isn’t so much about **WHO** we marry, but how we do **MARRIAGE**

Once you choose, you **DO** the **RIGHT** thing – leave, cleave, weave, & intimacy

**My Next Step Today Is:**

- If married, I will build my marriage around God’s “Four Musts” in His marriage design
- If single, I will follow God’s game plan for my relationships until I’m married
- We are interested in attending the “Marriage Encounter” on Fri-Sat, Aug10th-11<sup>th</sup>
- I am interested in participating in the Starting Point Class w/Pastor Russ beginning Tues, Aug 7<sup>th</sup>

**Next week:** Join us as we discuss “The Building Blocks of a Satisfying Relationship.” Invite a friend!

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