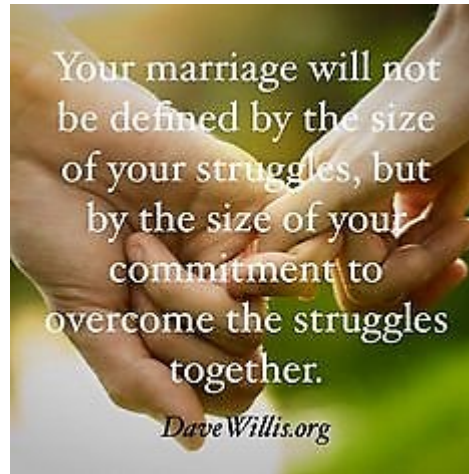


# What Does the Bible Say About Marriage?

Marriage comes from God. The union of Adam and Eve illustrates God's design for marriage—one man and one woman joined together in a life-long commitment to each other, working together to form strong, godly families.

(Genesis 1:27-28a NKJV) God created man in His own image...male and female He created them. Then God blessed them, and God said to them, 'Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it.'

At the heart of God's design for marriage is companionship and intimacy. However, the biblical picture of marriage expands into something much broader, with the husband and wife relationship illustrating the relationship between Christ and the church.



## Marriage Ministry

The Marriage Ministry was established with the following vision at its core – **a ministry to help couples nurture a heart for marriage where husbands and wives can connect, grow, and love one another in Christ.**

Our foundational scripture is found in **Ephesians 5:21-33** and teaches husbands and wives to love each other the way Jesus Christ loves the church.





## What is the purpose of the Marriage Ministry?

### Marriage and Family

The purpose of the marriage ministry is to strengthen relationships and encourage couples to continue to build up and invest in their marriages. Healthy marriages are essential for healthy families.

Society's view of marriage is far away from God's design for marriage. Couples need encouragement and practical tools to help them thrive in marriage.

It is important for newly married couples to learn key principles about God's purposes for marriage and about how to **connect** and maintain a solid relationship. It is also important for couples in longer marriages to continue to **grow** together throughout the various stages of marriage.

Building stronger marriages leads to stronger families. The goal of the marriage ministry is to be intentional about strengthening and equipping couples to **love** one another and have Christ-centered, satisfying, and long-lasting marriages.

## Why Is there a need for the Marriage Ministry?

- Marriage is God's design and is the foundation of the family
- Marriage Ministry is a part of evangelistic outreach
- Marriages are hurting and couples should be able to find help and healing in the church

*"What if God designed marriage to make us holy more than to make us happy?"*

– Gary Thomas, author of *Sacred Marriage: Celebrating Marriage as a Spiritual Discipline*



## How can you serve in the Marriage Ministry?

### Marriage Ministry Team

The team is made up of married couples who have a heart for marriage and a desire to serve in the ministry. As volunteers, the team helps plan various marriage activities throughout the year.

The Marriage Ministry team serves in the following ways:

- Leads marriage-focused classes and group discussions
- Sponsors date nights, lunch and learns, and marriage retreats
- Provides marriage resources, including counseling contacts

### Marriage Mentors

Volunteers in the marriage ministry can also serve as marriage mentors to help couples through encouragement and prayer. Marriage mentors **are not** counselors. These volunteers are a trusted team of couples who can share Godly wisdom and practical advice for marriage.

## Contact Us

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