

Hope for Marriage

Lesson 4: Become One!

Review

A. Created Equal.

1. Genesis 1:24-31.
2. Challenge: Rule together as a team of equals.

B. Provision & Responsibility

1. Genesis 2:7-9; 15-17
2. Challenge: Look after all God gives you (especially your spouse).

C. The Perfect Imperfect Gift

1. Genesis 2:18-23
2. Challenge: Thank God for your hand-crafted spouse.

Deuteronomy 6:4-5 – God is One.

A. God is one.

1. God is the only object of our worship.
2. God is unique. He is one of a kind.
3. God cannot be divided.

4	<p>“Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD [is] one.”</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ This is called the “Shema.” ▪ NET: [1] sole object of worship; [2] unique, one of a kind
5	<p>And you shall love the LORD your God</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ with all your heart ▪ and with all your person ▪ and with all your strength. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ NET: To love the LORD is to be absolutely loyal and obedient to him in every respect. ▪ See Matthew 22:37-40.

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John 17:20-21 – The Father and the Son are One.

A. The Father and the Son are one.

1. Our oneness as believers should reflect their oneness.
2. Our oneness as believers is the main factor in drawing non-believers into the faith.

20	<p>(x) I do not ask concerning these only,</p> <p>(y) but also concerning those who believe in me through their word,</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ These: disciples in the Upper Room
21	<p>(a) in order that they may all be one, just as you, Father, [are] in me, and I [am] in you,</p> <p>(b) in order that they also may be in us,</p> <p>(c) in order that the world may believe that you sent me.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ They: those who believe in the Word from the apostles.

Genesis 2:23-24 – The Goal of Marriage is Oneness.

A. The goal of marriage is to become one with our spouse.

1. Adam joyfully received his handcrafted bride.
2. She was literally part of his flesh.

23	<p>Then the man said,</p> <p>“This at last</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ is bone from my bones ▪ and flesh from my flesh. <p>She shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man.”</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪
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3. We should prioritize our marriage over our relationship with our parents.
4. We should hold fast to, hold onto, cling to, and join together with our spouse...
 - For better or for worse...
 - For richer or for poorer...
 - In sickness and in health...
 - Until we are parted by death.
5. Our oneness should as a couple should reflect the oneness of the Father and the Son.

24	<p>Therefore</p> <p>(a) a man shall leave his father and his mother</p> <p>(b) and hold fast to his wife,</p> <p>(c) and they shall become one flesh.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Moses explains the background and purpose for marriage. ▪ Hold fast: to stick, cling; to join, hold onto ▪ NET: marriage supersedes the parent-child relationship.
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B. Application for Marriage

1. Our marriage is one of a kind and unique. Our spouse is handcrafted to fill our gaps.
2. We should stand against anything that divides us.
3. Our marriage is our most important human relationship:
 - More important than our parents... though we must honor our parents.
 - More important than our children... though we must teach our children about God.
 - More important than our church... though we shouldn't neglect fellowship & worship.
 - More important than our ministry... though we must still make disciples.
 - More important than our work... though we must still provide for physical needs.
4. We should hold fast to our spouse through all circumstances.
5. Our oneness should reflect the oneness the Father, Son, and Spirit.
 - Oneness is unity, but not sameness.
 - The Father, Son, and Spirit are each distinct persons with distinct roles.
 - Yet each is of equal value. Each is truly God.
 - Celebrate your spouse's uniqueness.
6. People should see our marriage and want to become Christians.
7. **Challenge: Remember! It's about becoming one.**
 - a. Celebrate three ways you are unified (purpose, values, priorities, relationship, beliefs).
 - b. Eliminate one thing dividing you.