



CGOM

Churches Of God Outreach Ministries
People working together to proclaim the Gospel

"The Churches of God Outreach Ministries provides leadership, information, and biblical teaching in spreading the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Matthew 28:19-20"

1-800-611-8080 / www.cgom.org
PO Box 54621, Tulsa, OK 74155-0621

Mini Study

Why Marriage?

"And the LORD God said, It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him... And the rib, which the LORD God had taken from man, made He a woman, and brought her to the man. And Adam said, This is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh: she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man. Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave to his wife: and they shall be one flesh" (Genesis 2:18, 22-24).

Marriage is being replaced with a myriad of lifestyles. And, with today's dismal record of marriage failures, it is understandable. If the odds of success were less than 50%, would you make an investment or fly a plane? Over 50% of marriages end in divorce. An estimated 65% of men are in affairs, and 40% of women.

Does that make marriage a risky venture? No wonder 9.7 million people in the USA are cohabiting (sinning). We are a product of our upbringing and society. If we keep doing what we're doing, we'll keep getting what we've got, only worse. Can the institution of marriage be fixed? How can you beat the odds? — *"My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because you have rejected knowledge, I will also reject you..." (Hosea 4:6 KJV).* We need to know "Why Marriage?"

- man and woman were created with specific instructions : *"So God created man in His own image, in the image of God created He him; male and female created He them. And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it:..." (Genesis 1:27-28)* Woman was created as a counterpart to man, not in an adversarial role but as an aid and companion (Gen 2:18 *above*). They were made to balance and complement each other
- specific instructions are given to each:
 - 1 *to the woman:* (Ephesians 5:22-33) *"Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and He is the savior of the body. Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in every thing"*
 - 2 *to the man:* {Eph 5: 25} *"Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave Himself for it; That he might present it to Himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish. So ought men to love their wives as their own bodies. He that loves his wife loves himself. For no man ever yet hated his own flesh; but nourishes and cherishes it, even as the Lord the church: For we are members of His body, of His flesh, and of His bones. For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh. This is a great mystery: but I speak concerning Christ and the church. Nevertheless let every one of you in particular so love his wife even as himself; and the wife see that she reverence her husband"*
- the parents are to teach children about God and marriage! (Deuteronomy 11:19) *"And ye shall teach them your children, speaking of them when thou sits in your house, and when thou walk by the way, when thou lie down, and when thou rise up."* This is a grave responsibility, but too often ignored
- the Biblical instruction therefore remains: *"That every one of you should know how to possess his vessel in sanctification and honor;" (1 Thessalonians 4:4).* *"Should know how"* indicates an effort must be put forth to understand the purpose of marriage and its rules. Would anyone enter into such an important contract without good advice, counsel, knowledge, and wisdom?

Request the free articles: **Marriage...just a piece of paper?** and **Spend A Lifetime - Together**

Published by:
The Churches of God Outreach Ministries
PO Box 54621
Tulsa, OK 74155-0621
©2005 The Churches of God Outreach Ministries
www.cgom.org

This article may be freely copied and distributed as long as it is done in its entirety, including this notice, and is given away free, without any charge to the recipient.

Write us for a free catalog of other free articles we have to offer.