

I. Living Single in a Double World

A. On Being 'Single': Seeking First the Kingdom

1. Theme: God calls us to be truly 'single' – devoted first and foremost to Him and His Kingdom - before seeking marriage.
2. Text: Matthew 6:24-33
3. Reading: Psalm 84:10-12

B. Married or Single – Is One More Spiritual?

1. Theme: The key to true spirituality is not either marriage or being single, but rather determining God's call and gifts for us, and following biblical mandates for our lives.
2. Text: 1 Corinthians 7:1-9
3. Reading: 1 Timothy 4:1-5

II. Wise Courtship: Biblical Principles For Selecting A Marriage Partner

A. Biblical Principles for Selecting A Marriage Partner (Part 1)

1. Theme: Although the bible does not give a specific plan for dating or courtship, it does give key principles, the most important of which is that they must be a believer.
2. Text: 1 Corinthians 7:39

3. Reading: 2 Corinthians 6:14-7:1

B. Biblical Principles for Selecting A Marriage Partner (Part 2)

1. Theme: When thinking about a marriage partner, we need to follow God's wisdom and choose someone, not based on external looks, but on the basis of godly character.
2. Text: Proverbs 31:10, 31
3. Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:18-25

C. Biblical Principles for Selecting A Marriage Partner (Part 3)

1. Theme: When building a relationship with a marriage partner, the Scripture calls for absolute sexual purity – in action and desire.
2. Text: 1 Thessalonians 4:1-8
3. Reading: Psalm 33:1-5

III. Marriage Issues in the New Millennium

A. Is Cohabitation the Same As Marriage?

1. Theme: Cohabitation is different in both purpose and practice from marriage, does not fit the biblical parameters for marriage and thus does not benefit the individuals or society..
2. Text: Genesis 2:22-24; Matthew 19:3-6
3. Reading: Psalm 63:1-5

B. Does God Allow Homosexual Marriage?

1. Theme: Although Christians must show compassion to those trapped in homosexuality, we must be clear that it is a sin, and that God would never condone homosexual marriage.
2. Text: Genesis 2:22-24; Matthew 19:3-6
3. Reading: Luke 1:46-55

IV. Building Strong Families

A. The Covenant Nature of Marriage

1. Theme: Marriage is a life-long covenant between a man and a woman to be exclusively faithful to one another.
2. Text: Malachi 2:13-16

3. Reading: Philippians 3:7-14

B. The Purposes of Marriage

1. Theme: Marriage must be centered on God, and its true purposes are found in fulfilling our call to display God's image in all the earth.
2. Text: Genesis 1:26-28; 2:18-24
3. Reading: Psalm 95:1-7

C. Roles and Responsibilities in the Home

1. Theme: To fulfill God's purposes for marriage and have a strong family, we must follow His blueprint for the roles for each person in the family.
2. Text: Ephesians 5:22-33
3. Reading: Psalm 96:1-6

D. A Godly Seed: Raising Our Children in the Lord

1. Theme: God desires that we raise children according to His Word so that they will love and follow Him.
2. Text: Ephesians 6:1-4
3. Reading: Psalm 96:7-13

V. When Marriages Fail: Divorce and Remarriage

As For Me and My House: Household Issues in A
Brave New World

A. The Tragedy of Divorce

1. Theme: Divorce is a tragedy arising from man's sin which produces devastating effects on all involved, so Christians should always work to save marriages.
2. Text: Matthew 19:1-9; Malachi 2:16
3. Reading: Psalm 98

B. Does God Ever Allow Divorce?

1. Theme: Although God hates divorce, He does allow it if there has been sexual immorality or if an unbeliever leaves a believer.
2. Text: Matthew 19:1-9; 1 Corinthians 7:10-16
3. Reading: Psalm 99:1-5

C. Divorce and Remarriage Today

1. Theme: God may allow remarriage, but the sinful conduct which destroyed the previous marriage must be rectified first through repentance and proper actions.
2. Text: Matthew 19:1-9; 1 Corinthians 7:10-16
3. Reading: Psalm 103:8-14