

Giving Honor To One Another

Have you ever noticed that every song has to do with love? It is truly the cornerstone of the family; nothing comes close in society to the family. One of the saddest of all problems is marital problems. Couples who find that their glorious wedding and reception moments have quickly fallen by the wayside can be devastated. Marriage problems can come in many forms: financial problems, meddling in-laws, religious problems, or health problems. But when you join your hands together in the wedding ceremony, you have everything you need to make your marriage work.

God created marriage to be a beautiful experience, so He obviously wants yours to be a success! To have a successful marriage, we have to listen to the Bible. Peter speaks of the husband giving the wife honor because they are *"heirs together of the grace of life"* (1 Peter 3:7). If the couple will submit *"one to another in the fear of God"* (Ephesians 5:21), then marriage can be a lifelong, magnificent experience.

Although a lot of marriages fail because of the aforementioned problems, a lot of them fail because of extramarital affairs. God unites us in marriage (Genesis 2:24-25; Matthew 19:6). This is why when someone commits adultery, it is referred to as being *"joined"* to a harlot (1 Corinthians 6:16-17). The ungodly union with a harlot is a wicked and disgusting perversion of the divinely established marriage union. Sexual relations involve more than a physical act -- they join the two people together. How many men and women have ruined a good union by making the stupid mistake of becoming an adulterer and by joining themselves to an adulterer!

Society ingrains it into people to think only of themselves, and this worldly philosophy will doom a marriage. Finding flaws and deficiencies in your mate and harping on them will not make a marriage work. In fact, when we rail on spouses, we may very well create a self-fulfilling prophecy. Because the Bible shows that the husband and wife are so closely tied together, when you shoot down your spouse, you shoot down yourself.

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