

# Marriage, Family, Trust and Respect

## Part 1

Pastor James Robeson

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Notes: For working message

The divorce rate of 1<sup>st</sup> time marriages is 40-50%, 2<sup>nd</sup> marriage 60%, 3rd+ 70-79%. According to a study conducted by Barna Group, between 33% and 38% of born-again Christians have experienced at least one divorce in their lifetime. This statistic is not far off from the national average of around 40%.

<https://christianeducatorsacademy.com/shocking-truth-what-is-the-divorce-rate-among-christian-couples/>

Book of Genesis 2:18. And the Lord said, it is not good that man should be alone; I God will make him a helper comparable to him. Reading the following verses 19-20 we see that God called every living thing on the earth to Adam to name, all the birds, cattle. All the beasts and everything that walked on the earth and swam in the ocean. But there was one little problem, none were comparable to Adam.

1. Although God created Adam and filled the earth with all animals, birds, and other mammals that would live abundantly within the harmony of His Creation, none were compatible with Adam.
2. Eve created by God to be comparable with him (Adam in like manor) for procreation to fulfill scripture to go forth and multiply.

She is to be comparable to Adam in every way, physical, spiritual and emotional needs were to be tended to, but authority and gender roles were to be different.

Misunderstanding of what happened in the garden of Eden is where conflict and chaos began, causing emotional and disrupting the harmony of enjoying life together as husband and wife.

Society today has both men and women wanting authority (domination) over each other creating failure in marriage and creating division within the family unit, children, other relationships, etc.

Scripture for husbands and wives:

### Understanding Our Roles

Understanding our roles as husbands and wives is foundational to a thriving marriage. We are called to embrace these roles not simply as duties but as expressions of love and commitment. When we look into the scriptures, we see that each role has unique responsibilities that complement each other. The Bible teaches us that as husbands, we should lead and care for our wives, and as wives, we are encouraged to support and respect our husbands. Together, we embody a partnership that mirrors Christ's love for the Church. Embracing these roles can deepen our connection and allow us to flourish in our marriage.

### **1 Peter 3:7**

*“Husbands, in the same way be considerate as you live with your wives, and treat them with respect as the weaker partner and heirs with you of the gracious gift of life, so that nothing will hinder your prayers.” – 1 Peter 3:7*

### **Ephesians 5:22-23**

*“Wives, submit yourselves to your own husbands as you do to the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife as Christ is the head of the church, his body, of which he is the Savior.” – Ephesians 5:22-23*

### **Colossians 3:18-19**

*“Wives, submit yourselves to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord. Husbands, love your wives and do not be harsh with them.” – Colossians 3:18-19*

### **1 Corinthians 11:3**

*“But I want you to realize that the head of every man is Christ, and the head of the woman is man, and the head of Christ is God.” – 1 Corinthians 11:3*

### **Ephesians 5:25**

*“Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her.” – Ephesians 5:25*

### **Communication and Understanding**

As we dive into the scriptures, it becomes evident that communication and understanding are blessings in our marriages. Open and honest communication helps us to better understand each other's feelings and needs. The Bible teaches that we should be quick to listen and slow to speak, which is vital for nurturing a loving relationship. We are reminded to express our thoughts and emotions gently and kindly. This way, we build a bridge of understanding that strengthens our bond as partners. Healthy communication is the heartbeat of love, and when we genuinely listen to one another, we foster a deeper connection.

### **James 1:19**

*“My dear brothers and sisters, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry.” – James 1:19*

### **Proverbs 18:13**

*“To answer before listening—that is folly and shame.” – Proverbs 18:13*

### **Ephesians 4:29**

*“Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen.” – Ephesians 4:29*

### **Proverbs 15:1**

*“A gentle answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger.” – Proverbs 15:1*

### **Colossians 4:6**

*“Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone.” – Colossians 4:6*

### **Love and Affection**

Love and affection are at the core of our relationships as husbands and wives. The Bible speaks volumes about the nature of true love. It is patient, kind, and unconditional. As we nurture a loving atmosphere in our homes, we reflect God's love for us. Expressing affection can be as simple as a loving touch, a kind word, or a thoughtful gesture, and these actions build a nurturing environment. We

must remember to prioritize love in our marriage, allowing it to flourish and spread joy throughout our lives. Let love be the guiding force that unites us as one.

**1 Corinthians 13:4-5**

*“Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs.” – 1 Corinthians 13:4-5*

**Ephesians 4:2**

*“Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love.” – Ephesians 4:2*

**1 John 4:19**

*“We love because he first loved us.” – 1 John 4:19*

**Song of Solomon 8:6**

*“Place me like a seal over your heart, like a seal on your arm. For love is as strong as death, its jealousy unyielding as the grave.” – Song of Solomon 8:6*

**Colossians 3:14**

*“And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.” – Colossians 3:14*

**Mutual Respect**

Mutual respect is essential for any healthy relationship, especially between husbands and wives. The Bible encourages us to honor each other, recognizing our unique qualities and contributions. When we respect one another, we create a safe haven for growth, healing, and support. This mutual respect leads to selflessness and consideration in daily interactions. We become teammates striving toward common goals, cultivating a nurturing environment where love can thrive. Let's commit to fostering an atmosphere of respect in our marriages, drawing from the wisdom of the scriptures as our guide.

**1 Peter 2:17**

*“Show proper respect to everyone, love the family of believers, fear God, honor the emperor.” – 1 Peter 2:17*

**Romans 12:10**

*“Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves.” – Romans 12:10*

**Philippians 2:3**

*“Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves.” – Philippians 2:3*

**Ephesians 5:21**

*“Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.” – Ephesians 5:21*

**Galatians 5:13**

*“You, my brothers and sisters, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the flesh; rather, serve one another humbly in love.” – Galatians 5:13*

**Faithfulness and Commitment**

Faithfulness and commitment are fundamental components of a strong marriage. The Bible teaches us about the importance of being devoted to one another, weathering life's storms together. When faced with challenges, we are called to lean on each other as partners, holding each other up. Our commitment is expressed through our actions, and we must remain persistent in our efforts to support one another. By prioritizing faithfulness, we reflect God's steadfast love and strength in our relationships, fostering an unbreakable bond built on trust and loyalty.

### **Hebrews 13:4**

*“Marriage should be honored by all, and the marriage bed kept pure, for God will judge the adulterer and all the sexually immoral.” – Hebrews 13:4*

### **Malachi 2:14**

*“You ask, ‘Why?’ It is because the Lord is the witness between you and the wife of your youth. You have been unfaithful to her, though she is your partner, the wife of your marriage covenant.” – Malachi 2:14*

### **Proverbs 3:3-4**

*“Let love and faithfulness never leave you; bind them around your neck, write them on the tablet of your heart. Then you will win favor and a good name in the sight of God and man.” – Proverbs 3:3-4*

### **Matthew 19:6**

*“So they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate.” – Matthew 19:6*

### **1 Corinthians 7:10-11**

*“To the married I give this command (not I, but the Lord): A wife must not separate from her husband. But if she does, she must remain unmarried or else be reconciled to her husband. And a husband must not divorce his wife.” – 1 Corinthians 7:10-11*

### **Conflict Resolution**

Conflict resolution is an inevitable part of any relationship, and the Bible provides us with essential guidance on how to handle disputes between husbands and wives. It’s essential to approach these conflicts with love, patience, and a desire for reconciliation. Instead of allowing anger and frustration to take root, we can communicate openly and seek understanding. God encourages us to forgive and move forward together. In doing so, we reflect His grace and mercy, transforming potential discord into opportunities for growth and unity in our marriage.

### **Matthew 18:15**

*“If your brother or sister sins, go and point out their fault, just between the two of you. If they listen to you, you have won them over.” – Matthew 18:15*

### **Proverbs 29:11**

*“Fools give full vent to their rage, but the wise bring calm in the end.” – Proverbs 29:11*

### **Ephesians 4:31-32**

*“Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.” – Ephesians 4:31-32*

### **Proverbs 15:18**

*“A hot-tempered person stirs up conflict, but the one who is patient calms a quarrel.” – Proverbs 15:18*

### **Colossians 3:13**

*“Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you.” – Colossians 3:13*

### **Prayer and Spiritual Growth**

Prayer and spiritual growth are vital aspects of any marriage. When we dedicate time to pray together, we invite God into our relationship and open ourselves to His guidance. The Bible calls us to seek God in all things, and this includes our marriages. Supporting one another in spiritual growth creates a

shared journey where we become stronger together. By nurturing our individual faiths and praying for each other, we fortify our connection both personally and as a couple. Let's embrace prayer as an unwavering anchor for our marriage.

**Philippians 4:6-7**

*"Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."* – **Philippians 4:6-7**

**1 Thessalonians 5:16-18**

*"Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."* – **1 Thessalonians 5:16-18**

**Psalms 127:1**

*"Unless the Lord builds the house, the builders labor in vain. Unless the Lord watches over the city, the guards stand watch in vain."* – **Psalms 127:1**

**James 5:16**

*"Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective."* – **James 5:16**

**Proverbs 3:5-6**

*"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight."* – **Proverbs 3:5-6**

**Friendship and Fun**

Friendship and fun are essential for maintaining a vibrant marriage. The Bible teaches us to enjoy life together and find joy in our shared experiences. When we approach each other with a spirit of friendship, we create a strong foundation for love to grow. Engaging in fun activities, laughing together, and forging memories are vital aspects of building a healthy bond. We should prioritize moments of joy in our relationship to keep our love alive and flourishing, reminding us of the blessings we have as partners.

**Ecclesiastes 3:12-13**

*"I know that there is nothing better for people than to be happy and to do good while they live. That each of them may eat and drink, and find satisfaction in all their toil—this is the gift of God."* – **Ecclesiastes 3:12-13**

**Proverbs 17:22**

*"A cheerful heart is good medicine, but a crushed spirit dries up the bones."* – **Proverbs 17:22**

**Philippians 1:3-5**

*"I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now."* – **Philippians 1:3-5**

**Psalms 149:3**

*"Let them praise his name with dancing and make music to him with timbrel and harp."* – **Psalms 149:3**

**Proverbs 5:18-19**

*"May your fountain be blessed, and may you rejoice in the wife of your youth, a loving doe, a graceful deer; may her breasts satisfy you always; may you ever be intoxicated with her love."* – **Proverbs 5:18-19**

