

# Marriage Bible Study

Questions Only



by Little-Sarah Kim

## Lesson 1

### The Meaning of a Christian Marriage

#### Genesis 2:4-25

- 1. Describe the garden in which God created for His glory and for man's happiness, including the marriage. What can we learn from this about God's love? How can we experience His love living in this cursed world? Do you believe that God loves you?**
- 2. What was one thing that was not good in God's eyes? (18) What is the purpose of a family? How does establishing a family impact one's personal life, the society and the world?**
- 3. Discuss God's plan and purpose for man in the garden. (5,15) How was he fulfilling his mission as the steward of the world? What is the significance of naming the animals? (19) What is the mission God called you to do?**
- 4. According to verse 18, for what two purposes did God make a woman? How can you be a good friend to your spouse? (Pr 27:17; Ec 4:9-12; Jn 15:12-14) What are some of your godly virtues that God can use to support your future spouse?**
- 5. How did God provide a co-worker for Adam? (21,22) How are man and woman similar and how are they different? In what respect do you complement your future spouse to serve God better?**
- 6. How did God confirm and establish the marriage? How did Adam receive her? (22,23) What does this suggest about the nature of their relationship? What is the spiritual order in the family? Is God's sovereignty evident in your marriage? Explain.**
- 7. What commitment must man make to his wife? (24) What does it mean that they become one flesh? (Mark 10:6-9) What difference does it make to know that a marriage is a covenant? (Matt19:6) How can you become one with your spouse? What does verse 25 suggest about their relationship? In what areas do you have to improve?**
- 8. Based on this passage, what is your prayer topic for yourself and your future spouse? Please formulate a mission statement for your future family together with your fiance.**

***THE ROLE OF A HUSBAND AND THE ROLE OF A WIFE***

***Ephesians 5:21-33***

**1. Read verse 21 and memorize. How should a husband and a wife treat one another? What is the basis for submitting to one another?**

**2. What is the main responsibility of a wife to her husband? (22) What does it mean to submit as to the Lord? (1 Peter 3:5,6) How does this establish a spiritual order in the family? How is the command to submit inseparably tied to God's purpose for women in Genesis 2:18? What happens when a wife neglects her role as a suitable helper and believes building a career is more satisfying? (Titus 2:4,5)**

**3. To what extent should a wife submit to her husband? (24) What is the benefit to the family if the wife keeps the spiritual order in the family? How can a wife respect her husband? Why is it hard to respect others? How can you show respect for your husband? How can an unbelieving husband be won over to the Lord? (1 Peter 3:1-6) How can a wife make herself beautiful? What does it mean to have a gentle and quite spirit?**

**4. Read Proverbs 31:10-31. List some of the adjectives and phrases used to describe a wife of noble character. What are some of the duties this woman fulfilled? What is the secret of woman's beauty and her noble character? Give examples of ignoble wives and noble wives. Do you believe that your husband is blessed to be married to you? (Pr. 12:4; 18:22; 19:14)**

**5. What is the role of a husband in the family? (23) What are traditional and contemporary roles of a husband? What are some of the different styles of leadership that are godly and some that are worldly? Who should be the model for a husband's leadership? (25-27) What are some of the characteristics of Jesus' leadership? (Mark 10:42-45) How have you served your wife? (28, 1 Peter 3:7) Who is the most influential role model for you as a husband?**

**6. What kind of commitment must the husband make to his wife? (31) What are some practical areas husbands must take leadership in? What happens when the husband neglects his role as the leader of a family?**

**7. What should be the husband's response to his wife's labor of love? (Proverbs 31:28; 1 Peter 3:7) What happens when she is not praised?**

## **Proverbs 31: A Wife of Noble Character**

**1. List some of the adjectives and phrases used to describe a wife of noble character. Think of each.**

**2. What are some of the duties that this woman fulfilled?**

**3. What is the secret of her beauty and her noble character? How can we grow to be like her?**

**COMMUNICATION: THE KEY TO ONENESS**

**1a. Think about the power of words in these scriptural references.**

**Proverbs 12:18**

**Proverbs 18:21**

**Proverbs 12:25**

**Proverbs 15:1**

**Proverbs 15:4**

**James 3:5-8**

**1b. State in your own words speaking principles found in each of the following Scriptures.**

**Proverbs 10:19**

**Ephesians 4:29**

**Proverbs 15:1**

***Ecclesiastes 3:1,7***

**Proverbs 15:23**

**Proverbs 27:2**

**1c. Make a guideline for better expressing yourself.**

**A) Determine what you want to say.**

**What are my assumptions? Beliefs? Desires? Dreams? Needs?**

**B) Determine how you want to say it.**

**With excitement? Sadness? Conviction? Disappointment?**

**Encouragement?**

**C) Determine when you want to say it.**

**During or after a meal? At bedtime? In the presence of children? While driving? During reaction?**

**2. Think about the importance of listening part of the conversation? List some of proper listening principles.**

<b>FOCUS ON:</b>	<b>RATHER THAN:</b>
What is being said	How you feel about what is said

After a point is made it is important to ask clarifying questions to assure your spouse that what you said is important to you.

“ Are you telling me that \_\_\_\_\_ ?”

“What did you mean when you said \_\_\_\_\_ ?”

“Are we on the same page?”

3. What are some of nonverbal methods we use to communicate with others? What is the best way to improve our communication skills? (Matthew 15:17-18; James 3:8)

4. Which verses from above impacted you the most? Explain.

5. Eight tips for better communication.

- **Be Spirit-Filled**
- **Be Careful**
- **Be Attentive and Sensitive**
- **Be Quiet**
- **Be Honest**
- **Be Loving**
- **Be Wise**
- **Be Encouraging**

6. Communication Killers (Things to Avoid)

- **Negative Body Language (Not facing mate, folding arms, scowling, rolling eyes, clucking your tongue)**
- **Failing to Fully Listen (Glassy stare, looking around)**
- **Withdrawing (Leaving room, Day dreaming)**
- **Changing the Subject**
- **Clamping Up or Pouting**
- **Losing Control**
- **Scream/Yell**
- **Throwing Things/Punching Wall**
- **Taking Things Out of Context (“Are we going to discuss this same stupid subject fourteen hours a day for the rest of our earthly lives”)**
- **Attempting to Mind Read and Psychoanalyze**
- **Seeking Peace at Any Cost (Caving in, Yes Dear, whatever you say)**
- **Turning up the Volume on the TV**

## SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTIONS IN COMMUNICATION.

### Five levels of openness/vulnerability (Formal to Intimate):

- **Greetings and Casual Conversation**
- **General Information**
- **Ideas, Judgments, Hopes, Dreams, Fears, Values**
- **Feelings and Emotions**
- **Spiritual Matters (confessing sins, sharing)**

1. At what level do you normally share with others? What triggers you to become defensive or less vulnerable.

2. At what levels do you generally share in prayer and time with God?

### Five languages of love:

*The way people express their love to others can be described in five categories.*

*People receive and feel love in different ways. It is important to understand how you would like to be loved and how our spouse would like to be loved so that there can be better emotional communication.*

- **Verbal Affirmation (I love you, I am proud of you, Thank you)**

- **Service (Cooking, Cleaning, Fixing)**
- **Gift (Flowers, Cards, Letters)**
- **Quality Time (Walking, Coffee Shop, Movies)**
- **Physical Touch (Holding Hands, Hugging)**

1. What love language do you speak? What love language makes you feel loved?

Every day think of a way to communicate your love to your fiance.

Difference between men and women.

1. Some people are more thinking-oriented and others are more feeling-oriented.

Place check where you think you fall on the continuum and circle where you think your spouse falls. Discuss your answer with your spouse.

**Rational and logical**

**Thinks bottom-line**

**Difficulty expressing emotions**

**Emotional and random**

**Thinks, "This is how I feel"**

**Passionate and expressive**

Men tend to be...

Women tend to be...



**More Physical**

**More Verbal**

**Physically Stronger**

**Physically Weaker**

**Compartmental in their thinking**

**Holistic in their thinking**

**Oblivious to Feelings**

**More in touch with feelings**

**Goal-oriented**

**People/need-oriented**

**Logical Thinkers**

**Intuitive Thinkers**

**Eager to Achieve**

**Eager to Belong**

**More Assured**

**More in need of Assurance**

**Dependent on Work**

**Dependent on Husband**

**Too proud to Ask for Help/Directions**

**Too Smart NOT to ask for Help**

**Into Actions Movies**

**Into Romantic Dramas**

**Sexually Aroused by Sight/Smell/Touch  
marriage**

**No Sexual Desire after**

2. How does the different way you and your fiance communicate hinder to build up your marriage?

3. How can you practically do this week to improve your communication with your future spouse? Based on this lesson, what is your prayer topic?

*Lesson 4*

**CONFLICT RESOLUTION THROUGH FORGIVENESS**

Place a check to indicate the areas you have difficulty resolving problems.

	<u>Myself</u>	<u>My spouse</u>	<u>Both</u>
• When to have children	_____	_____	_____
• Where to go for a holiday	_____	_____	_____
• What restaurant to go to	_____	_____	_____
• How much to give for offering	_____	_____	_____
• Whether or not to work	_____	_____	_____
• How to help sheep	_____	_____	_____
• How to resolve conflicts	_____	_____	_____

**1. How do you and your fiancé express anger? How do you and your fiancé usually resolve a conflict? List responses to conflict that are particularly destructive in marriage.**

**2. What do you learn from these verses about resolving conflicts?**

**Psalm 130:3-4**

**Matthew 6:12-15**

**Luke 6:31**

**Luke 6:37-38**

**Luke 17:3-4**

**Ephesians 4:25-27**

**Colossians 3:12-13**

**3. How does repentance for your own sins help you embrace and love others? (Mark 11:25)**

**4. Do you hold grudges against anyone? Is there anyone you cannot forgive? How do you justify keeping a hard heart in conflict?**

**5. Look again at Matthew 6:15. What is the basis for forgiving others? Can you resolve conflict without a willingness to forgive?**

**6. What triggers you to soften your heart and work toward reconciliation in a conflict? List things you can do or say to work toward resolution in a conflict?**

**A valuable tip for men:** After a certain conflict is resolved, often the man wants to move forward too quickly, and the woman is more cautious. The wife's caution comes from a fear that her husband does not understand how hurt she felt by the situation. She

may be looking for assurance that he understands the magnitude of her pain. Once she senses that her husband understands, she can move forward with some degree of confidence that it might not happen again.

**7. Are there things you do not have tolerance for?  
(Check one or more)**

- snoring
- chewing food loudly
- poor communication skills
- bad manners
- laziness
- lying
- selfishness
- complaining
- obesity
- laughing too loudly

**When are you most likely to be inappropriately angry?  
(Check one or more)**

- morning
- afternoon
- evening
- when you are tired
- when you are busy
- when you do not have spirit
- all the time
- when you have no money
- when you are hungry
- other \_\_\_\_\_

**8. List rules for fair fighting which leads to conflict resolution in marriage.**

- **Give yourself a time-out when you are too emotional**
- **Yield to the Lordship of Jesus Christ**
- **Pray for the Holy Spirit and the fruits of the Spirit**
- **Be truthful**
- **Adopt a 100% approach toward conflict resolution**
- **Remember that God's glory is at stake**
- **Do not fight for the sake of fighting**
- **Select an appropriate place and time for certain issues**
- **Stick to the issue at hand/No past events or failures/No personal attacks**
- **Avoid condescending statements**
- **Use 'I' statements instead of 'You' statements**
- **Stick to the rules even if your spouse does not**
- **Humbly admit your contribution to the problem**
- **Ask for clarity when you don't understand feelings or statements**
- **Compromise**
- **Consider your spouse as God's instrument to correct your ways (Proverbs 12:1)**

**9. What is your prayer topic for yourself and for your fiance?**

## Marriage Evaluation Questions:

It is important to evaluate your marital relationship on a regular basis. Set aside quiet time to engage in an in-depth conversation and long-term marital planning. The goal is to talk proactively about substantive issues and to pursue real intimacy in marriage. Such a proactive effort to better the marriage pleases God and helps us to establish a happy home. Also, by positively working on improving your marriage, you can prevent unnecessary conflicts and easily eliminate potential problems common in marriages. Here are ten questions for every married person to ask himself/herself..

1. What am I most thankful for in my marriage?
2. If I could change one thing about my marriage, what would I change?
3. What things am I doing that I know irritate or hurt my spouse?
4. Are my spouse and I on “the same page” emotionally, spiritually, fiscally, etc. or are we like the proverbial “two ships passing in the night?”
5. What conflicts or issues remain unresolved between my spouse and I?
6. What five words would I use to describe my current sex life? Why?
7. Regarding our financial situation, habits, etc. I feel \_\_\_\_\_.
8. Something in my marriage that I am **not** proud of is \_\_\_\_\_.
9. If a theologian, a pastor, and a marriage counselor got together and studied my marriage intensely for a month, what observations and conclusions would they make?
10. Three things I did this week to strengthen my marriage are: \_\_\_\_\_.

## INTIMACY: WHICH EVERYONE IS TOO SHY TO TALK ABOUT

### **Preliminary Questions:**

1. Where did you get most of your sex education information? (Peers, home, school, church, movies, experience or other)
  
2. What are some of the helpful or harmful things you learned in the past?
  
3. What are some of your fears regarding intimacy?
  
4. If you sinned sexually in the past, have you resolved your problems before God and with yourself?

### *Primary Questions:*

1. What are three purposes for sexual intimacy in marriage? (Genesis 1:28; Genesis 2:24; Proverbs 5:18,19)
  
2. What does it mean in your sexual intimacy to see yourselves as a part of one another? (Genesis 2:23; 1Corinthians 7:4,5; Mark 10:8,9)
  
3. From Song of Songs 4:1-5 and 5:10-16, what observation can you make about the love relationship between a husband and wife?
  
4. What are some of the differences between a man's expectations and a woman's expectations regarding sexual intimacy?

	<b>MEN</b>	<b>WOMEN</b>
<b>ATTITUDE</b>	Physical Compartmentalized	Relational Holistic
<b>STIMULATION</b>	Body-centered Sight Smell Actions	Person-centered Touch Attitude Words
<b>NEEDS</b>	Respect To be physically needed Physical expression	Respect To be emotionally needed Relational intimacy
	Acyclical	Cyclical

<b>SEXUAL RESPONSE</b>	Quick excitement Difficult to distract	Slow to excitement Easily distracted
<b>ORGASM</b>	Shorter, more intense More physically oriented	Longer, more in-depth More emotionally oriented

**5. What potential problems do you anticipate because of differences between men and women?**

**6. What inhibits you from fully enjoying the one-flesh relationship?**

**7. Do you think it is appropriate to talk about the past experience with your future spouse?**

**8. What is your view on birth control and family planning?**

**9. What happens when sex is taken out of marriage? (Exodus 20:14; Proverbs 2:7; 1Corinthians 6:12-20; 7:2-5; 2 Timothy 2:22; Ephesians 1:4; 5:5; Philippians 4:8; 1 Peter 1:14-16; 2Peter 1:5-7; Hebrews 13:4; Romans 16:9)**

**10. What are some of the benefits of keeping sexual purity?**

**11. Are there any boundaries engaged couple must keep?**

**12. What is one thing you learned from this lesson? What is your prayer topic?**

***Supplementary Questions:***

- 1) How can you balance work, church and other activities with your love life?
- 2) Would you feel comfortable with your future husband shepherding a girl sheep?
- 3) What could happen if your partner is not satisfied sexually?
- 4) What is your expectation of your honeymoon?
- 5) Are there any Biblical restrictions placed on a married couple regarding sex?
- 6) What would you do if your fiance were addicted to pornography?
- 7) Do you think that sex, though not the most important aspect of your relationship, is a definite indicator of the health of your marriage?

*Finance: Being a Good Steward*

## Survey Questions

Make checkmarks beside the statements that best describe you and your spouse.

	<b>You</b>	<b>Spouse</b>
• I'll buy it when I need it.	_____	_____
• Buy it when it's on sale.	_____	_____
• Generic is the way to go.	_____	_____
• I only go for brand names.	_____	_____
• I am within \$50 of reconciling the checkbook.	_____	_____
• My checkbook is perfectly balanced to the last penny.	_____	_____
• I am little over in the area of entertainment area of the budget, so I am borrowing from next month.	_____	_____
• I shouldn't go to the movies tonight because I've spent all the entertainment money for the month.	_____	_____

**1a. Read Luke 12:42-48; Who is the master and the manager in this parable?**

**1b. What responsibility did the master give to the manager? (42,43)**

**1c. What is the reward for being a faithful manager? (44)**

**1d. What did the manager think and how did he behave when the master left him in charge? (45)**

**1e. When did the master come back and how did he punish the stupid manager?**

**1f. Who are two kinds of servants that will be punished? How is the punishment different and the same? Why is there no excuse for ignorance?**

**2. Who do the money/resources belong to? (Ps 24:1; 1Chronicles 29:11,12,14,16)**

**3. What is our responsibility for the resources God has given us? (Luke 16:10-13)**

**4. What are some of the characteristics of a good manager? What is your weakness regarding money?**

**5. Why do you think that managing your finances is a good barometer for the condition of your spiritual life? (1 Timothy 6:6-8; Hebrews 13:5; Matthew 6:19-21; Ecclesiastes 5:10)**

**6. What does the Bible teach us about the danger of not following godly principles regarding money? (1 Timothy 6:9-10; Proverbs 23:4-5; Luke 12:15)**

**7. What should your attitude be toward making financial decisions? (Romans 13:6-8; 1 Timothy 6:17-19)**

**8. How can you apply spiritual principles to each of the following areas?**

- Cost of wedding and honeymoon
- Forming, maintaining and living within a budget
- Type of lifestyle you will lead as a couple after marriage
- Giving to God's work
- Debt
- Savings

**9. Discuss the importance of setting a budget.**



- Why is budgeting necessary to be financially successful? (Proverbs 25:28)
- Are you saving enough for long-term needs?
- Can you stay out of debt with your budget?
- What do you have to sacrifice in order to stick with your budget?
- If you or your spouse has to stop working, can you live on one income?

**10. What one Biblical truth did you learn regarding finance from this lesson and what is your prayer topic?**

# SURVEY FOR FAMILIES

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*Dear Friends in Christ, thank you for participating in the survey for Christian families. Please answer them honestly and clearly as possible so that you can identify the areas that you can work on to improve your marriage life. God bless you.*

1. What is your family's mission statement?
2. What are you most thankful for your marriage?
3. How frequently do you pray with your spouse? Why is it important to pray together?
4. Do you have good communication with your spouse on an emotional, spiritual, and intellectual level?
5. What conflicts or issues remain unresolved between you and your spouse?
6. What is your role in the family? What is the role of your family in the body of Christ?
7. Use five words to describe your current sex life. How important is intimacy to you?
8. Do you believe you are being a good steward of your financial resources?
9. If you could change one thing about your marriage life, what would it be?
10. What things do you do that irritate or hurt your spouse?
11. List three things you can do this week to strengthen your marriage.