

## The Opportunities of Marriage

**Genesis 2:15; 18; 21, 22; 24**

From the onset, the concept of marriage as a commitment between one man and woman has served as the foundation of home life and social order.

The devil has been trying to destroy marriage from the beginning.

Adam and Eve were no sooner married when Satan attempted to destroy their marriage.

It's remarkable how many troubled marriages we see in the Bible.

### I. GOD ESTABLISHED MARRIAGE FOR HIS OWN GLORY

Marriage is not merely about personal happiness;

It's an opportunity to glorify God as we continue the work he entrusted to mankind at creation.

We fulfill His mandate as we have children and build our families under God's lordship.

### II. GOD IS GLORIFIED WHEN HIS PEOPLE HONOR HIM IN THEIR MARRIAGES.

The person entering into the covenant of marriage says,

"I am committed to you in all the ways you will change-  
physically, emotionally, intellectually, and spiritually- for the rest of your life.

I will love you not only for who you are,

but for whatever you will become until God, by death, parts us."

In the marriage vows both people promise that, regardless of what the future may bring they will fight to preserve their marriage and keep their commitments.

### III. MARRIAGE PROVIDES THE OPPORTUNITY TO MEET THE NEEDS AND FULFILL THE DESIRES OF ONE OTHER PERSON.

The golden rule of marriage is that we meet our spouse's needs as we would have our own needs met.

Marriage is about being a caregiver to one another.

It's when we stop meeting one another's needs and stop ministering to each other that marriages fail.

### IV. MARRIAGE PROVIDES THE OPPORTUNITY TO BLESS OTHERS.

**Acts 18:1-3; 18-19; 24-28**

**Romans 16:3-4**

Notice how Priscilla and Aquila served as a team for the Lord.

They worked side-by-side in their tentmaking business,

Together they instructed Apollos.

Together they entertained the church in their home, risking their lives.

They were a team, and they represent one of the great marriages of the Bible.

God wants strong marriages, not just so we can meet each other's needs,  
but also so husbands and wives can labor side-by-side in the kingdom.

Every couple should be devoted to serving the Lord side by side,

not only in raising godly children for the kingdom

but in also in working hard in the church and in the world for the Lord.

Conclusion:

God established the relationship of Marriage for the primary purposes of

1. Glorifying Him.

2. Pleasing and meeting the needs of one other person.

3. Providing the opportunity to serve side-by-side with someone  
whose gifts and abilities compliment your own.

Think of marriage as the opportunity to minister in Jesus Name.