

Summary: SDA Fundamental 23: Marriage and Family

Read Before:

Aim: To understand that God created marriage; what marriage is and how it teaches us about God.

Have you ever been to a wedding?
Why do you think people get married?
What does getting married mean?

Genesis 2:20-24 - God created marriage

Note: the use of the word "one" in verse 24. The two people are still two people but we might say they are now one family. We will learn more about this word later.

In Matthew 19:5-6 Jesus quotes Genesis 2:22-23 and adds "What God has joined together, let no man separate." Jesus said that it was never God's intention that people should divorce or end their marriages. Unfortunately because of sin this does happen.

In Matthew 24:12 Jesus said one of the signs of the end of the world growing close is that wickedness will grow and any people's love will grow cold or disappear.

Ephesians 5:22-32 reveals to us why God created marriage. Here Paul compares the marriage relationship to the relationship that Jesus has to the church – to His people.

Read John 17:20-21

This word "one" is the same word used in Genesis 2:24. So, understanding how two people get married and become one – one family, one group, having one purpose and so on – helps us to understand a bit more about what God, Jesus and the Holy Spirit is like.

So, for a marriage to be like God created it to be, the people in the marriage have to live the way God wants them to. You can compare this to a triangle with the husband, wife and God at each of the corners. The closer they each come to God, the closer they will be to each other.

Lets read what the Bible says about marriage and loving God's way. Note: we can't do these things by ourselves, it is only when we spend time with God and ask Him to make us more like this that we can love God's way.

Before you get married ask God's guidance about who to marry. Read 2 Corinthians 6:14-15 (unite with believers)

Read and discuss 1 Corinthians 13:4-7

Philippians 2:3