

Faithful Family

RELATING TO ONE ANOTHER AS GOD RELATES TO US



Seeing **God through the lens of family** gives us:

1. a better understanding of God
2. a better picture of what it looks like to faithfully fulfill our roles in the family

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Ezekiel 16:3-4

English Standard Version

³ and say, Thus says the Lord God to Jerusalem: Your origin and your birth are of the land of the Canaanites; your father was an Amorite and your mother a Hittite. ⁴ And as for your birth, on the day you were born your cord was not cut, nor were you washed with water to cleanse you, nor rubbed with salt, nor wrapped in swaddling cloths.

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Ezekiel 16:5-6

English Standard Version

⁵ No eye pitied you, to do any of these things to you out of compassion for you, but you were cast out on the open field, for you were abhorred, on the day that you were born.
⁶ “And when I passed by you and saw you wallowing in your blood, I said to you in your blood, ‘Live!’ I said to you in your blood, ‘Live!’

A silhouette of a family consisting of a man, a woman, and two children walking across a grassy hill. The man is on the left, pointing towards the right. The woman is on the right, holding the hand of a small child. Another child is walking between them. The background is a dark, hazy landscape with a cloudy sky.

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Ezekiel 16:8

English Standard Version

⁸ “When I passed by you again and saw you, behold, you were at the age for love, and I spread the corner of my garment over you and covered your nakedness; I made my vow to you and **entered into a covenant with you**, declares the Lord God, and you became mine.

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Ezekiel 16:9-12

English Standard Version

⁹ Then I bathed you with water and washed off your blood from you and anointed you with **oil**. ¹⁰ I clothed you also with **embroidered cloth** and shod you with **fine leather**. I wrapped you in **fine linen** and covered you with **silk**. ¹¹ And I adorned you with **ornaments** and put **bracelets** on your wrists and a **chain** on your neck. ¹² And I put a **ring** on your nose and **earrings** in your ears and a beautiful **crown** on your head.

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Ezekiel 16:13-14

English Standard Version

¹³ Thus you were adorned with gold and silver, and your clothing was of fine linen and silk and embroidered cloth. You ate fine flour and honey and oil. You grew exceedingly **beautiful** and advanced to **royalty**. ¹⁴ And your **renown** went forth among the nations because of your beauty, for it was perfect through the splendor that I had bestowed on you, declares the Lord God.

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Ezekiel 16:15

New American Standard Bible

¹⁵ “But you **trusted in your beauty** and **became unfaithful** because of your fame, and you **poured out your obscene practices** on every passer-by to whom it might be tempting.”



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Hosea 2:14-15

English Standard Version

¹⁴ “Therefore, behold, I will **allure her**, and bring her into the wilderness, and **speak tenderly to her**. ¹⁵ And there I will give her her vineyards and make the Valley of Achor a door of hope. And there she shall answer as in the days of her youth, as at the time when she came out of the land of Egypt.

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Hosea 2:16-17

English Standard Version

¹⁶ “And in that day, declares the Lord, you will call me ‘My **Husband**,’ and no longer will you call me ‘My Baal.’ ¹⁷ For I will remove the names of the Baals from her mouth, and they shall be remembered by name no more.



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Hosea 2:18

English Standard Version

¹⁸ And I will make for them a covenant on that day with the beasts of the field, the birds of the heavens, and the creeping things of the ground. And I will abolish the bow, the sword, and war from the land, and **I will make you lie down in safety.**

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Hosea 2:19-20

English Standard Version

¹⁹ And I will betroth you to me forever. I will betroth you to me in righteousness and in justice, in steadfast love and in mercy. ²⁰ I will betroth you to me in faithfulness. And you shall know the Lord.



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2 Corinthians 11:2-3

English Standard Version

² For I feel a divine **jealousy** for you, since I betrothed you to one husband, to present you as a pure virgin to Christ.

³ But I am afraid that as the serpent deceived Eve by his cunning, your thoughts will be **led astray from a sincere and pure devotion to Christ.**



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James 4:4

English Standard Version

⁴ You **adulterous** people! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God.



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James 4:4

J.B. Phillips New Testament

You are like unfaithful wives, flirting with the glamour of this world, and never realising that to be the world's lover means becoming the enemy of God! Anyone who deliberately chooses to love the world is thereby making himself God's enemy.



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Ephesians 5:22-24

English Standard Version

²² Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord.

²³ For the husband is the head of the wife even as Christ is the head of the church, his body, and is himself its Savior.

²⁴ Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit in everything to their husbands.



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Ephesians 5:25–27

English Standard Version

²⁵ Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her, ²⁶ that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, ²⁷ so that he might present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish.

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Ephesians 5:28–30

English Standard Version

²⁸ In the same way husbands should love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself.

²⁹ For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ does the church, ³⁰ because we are members of his body.

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Ephesians 5:31–33

English Standard Version

³¹ “Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.”

³² This mystery is profound, and I am saying that it refers to Christ and the church. ³³ However, let each one of you love his wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects her husband.

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Marriage illuminates **the cross** and
the cross illuminates **marriage**.



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Marriage illuminates **the cross** and the cross illuminates **marriage**.

1. View Christian marriage as **a parable of Christ** and the church rather than a pursuit of personal happiness and pleasure.
2. Live with **marriage-like devotion** to the Lord.
3. Stop **“flirting”** with worldly pursuits.

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