

Marriage and Children

MARRIAGE IS FOR MAKING WORSHIPPERS

1. **A key way in which marriage can portray who God is (Gen. 1:27) is by making babies (Gen. 1:28).**

“Didn’t God make them one and give them a portion of spirit? What is the one seeking? Godly offspring. So watch yourselves carefully, so that no one acts treacherously against the wife of his youth” (Mal. 2:15).

“These words that I am giving you today are to be in your heart. 7 Repeat them to your children. Talk about them when you sit in your house and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up” (Deut. 6:6–7).

2. **Implications for adoption.**

“Not only that, but we ourselves who have the Spirit as the firstfruits—we also groan within ourselves, eagerly waiting for adoption, the redemption of our bodies” (Rom. 8:23).

“Before this faith came, we were confined under the law, imprisoned until the coming faith was revealed. 24 The law, then, was our guardian until Christ, so that we could be justified by faith. 25 But since that faith has come, we are no longer under a guardian, 26 for through faith you are all sons of God in Christ Jesus” (Gal. 3:23–26).

“He predestined us to be adopted as sons through Jesus Christ for himself, according to the good pleasure of his will” (Eph. 1:5).

3. **Children as a blessing**

“Sons are indeed a heritage from the Lord, offspring, a reward. 4 Like arrows in the hand of a warrior are the sons born in one’s youth. 5 Happy is the man who has filled his quiver with them. They will never be put to shame when they speak with their enemies at the city gate” (Ps. 127:3–5).

4. **Thoughts on birth control**

- a. Priority of not taking a human life.
- b. Priority of obeying your conscience and caring for others’.
- c. Priority of trusting that God’s gifts are good.

Biblical Marriage

Lesson 17

HOW CHILDREN GROW A MARRIAGE

The purpose of marriage is to be a union that portrays the goodness of God.

1. Children and . . . the union of marriage.



2. Children and . . . portraying God.

3. Children and . . . seeing/showing the goodness of God.

HOW CHILDREN CHANGE A MARRIAGE

1. Different pressures at different stages.

- a. Preschool
- b. School-aged
- c. Teen years
- d. Beyond

2. Changes to the roles of husband and wife.

- a. The little years can accentuate how different these roles feel.
 - A husband must encourage his helper.
 - A wife must trust God's plan.
- b. Leading/helping through spiritual struggle of the tween/teen years.
- c. Common temptation to define "success" and "flourishing" in terms of what we accomplish (Gen. 1:28) rather than seeing/showing the goodness of God (Gen. 1:27).
 - Little years
 - Older years

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3. Challenges to communication.

- a. Different styles of communication work better/worse at different stages of parenting.
- b. Communication when mom and dad don't align in their parenting values. Goal: to know/ be known / build trust—even in disagreement.

4. Challenges to intimacy.

- a. The little years: pursuing intimacy when parenting is intense.
- b. School-age: (re)building a romantic friendship.
- c. Teen years: preparing your friendship for life without kids at home.

CONCLUSION