VI. PARENTAL SUPPORT

Celebrate Your Marriage With The Full Support of Godly Parents.

"My son, hear the instruction of thy father, and forsake not the law of thy mother:" Proverbs 1:8

Parental approval improves the likelihood of a good marriage:

- ...they are wiser because they have more life experiences.
- ...they want what is best for their children.
- ...they see the long-term when young people often only see the immediate.

VII. SEXUAL PURITY

- "3 For this is the will of God, even your sanctification, that ye should abstain from fornication:
- 4 That every one of you should know how to possess his vessel in sanctification and honour;" I Thessalonians 4:3-4
- "7 Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.
- 8 For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption;..." Galatians 6:7-8a
- "According to most research, couples who live together...tend to have rockier marriages and a greater risk of divorce."
- --U.S. News & World, "No Wedding? No Ring? No Problem?"

VIII. PRE-MARITAL COUNSELING

- "Where no counsel is, the people fall: but in the multitude of counsellers there is safety." Proverbs 11:14
- "Without counsel purposes are disappointed: but in the multitude of counsellers they are established." Proverbs 15:22
- "For by wise counsel thou shalt make thy war: and in multitude of counsellers there is safety." Proverbs 24:6

CONCLUSION: Yay Marriage requires losing the "I" and adding the "we".

"Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others." Philippians 2:4

YAY MARRIAGE Finding The Love Of Your Life

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INTRODUCTION

A. Yay Marriage! Let's celebrate marriage together!!

"Let thy fountain be blessed: and rejoice with the wife of thy youth." Proverbs 5:18

"Marriage is honourable in all, and the bed undefiled: but whoremongers and adulterers God will judge." Hebrews 13:4

B. Every marriage struggles at some point because they are a unique blend of personalities, history, circumstances, and problems. This teaching series will show you how to enjoy your marriage, and all relationships, through the love and respect connection.

Oct 2	The Secret To A Better Marriage
TODAY	Finding The Love Of Your Life
Oct 16	What Every Marriage Needs
Oct 23	How To Affair Proof Your Marriage
Oct 30	Keeping Communication Lines Open
Nov 6	The Right Way To Handle Conflict
Nov 13	The Power Of Respect
Nov 20	Happy Wife, Happy Life
Nov 27	Parenting In An I-Kid World

TEXT: Proverbs 18:22 (Pew Bible/Page 602/Old Testament)

FINDING THE LOVE OF YOUR LIFE

I. GOD'S WILL

Consider whether the Lord would have you to be married or remain single. (I Corinthians 7:1-9, 25-40)

Paul taught that it is good (7:1, 8) to be single because...

...it allows for greater harmony. (7:25-31)

...it allows for greater devotion (7:26-35)

Because of these things, Paul said it was better (7:38) not to be married.

II. RIGHT TIMING

Trust the Lord to meet this need in His time.

"Rest in the LORD, and wait patiently for him" Psalm 37:7a

"11 Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content.

12 I know both how to be abased, and I know how to abound: every where and in all things I am instructed both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need.

13 I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me."

Philippians 4:11-13

"9 For in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily.

10 And ye are complete in him,..." Colossians 2:9-10a

Remember that there is something worse than being single and that is being married to the wrong person.

"It is better to dwell in the wilderness, than with a contentious and an angry woman." Proverbs 21:19

III. CHRISTIAN CHARACTER

• Make sure they are saved.

"Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness?" II Cor. 6:14 "3 Neither shalt thou make marriages with them; thy daughter thou shalt not give unto his son, nor his daughter shalt thou take unto thy son.

4 For they will turn away thy son from following me, that they may serve other gods: so will the anger of the LORD be kindled against you, and destroy thee suddenly."

Deuteronomy 7:3-4

Ill. Solomon (I Kings 11:1-11)

Marriage is not meant to be an evangelistic mission.

• Make sure they are Spirit-filled.

"22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith,

23 Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law."

Galatians 5:22-23

IV. SUFFICIENT TIME

Take time to really get to know them.

"Charity suffereth long..."

I Corinthians 13:4

There is no set rule on how long you should date before considering marriage. However, I recommend at least one year. The main thing is to make sure you really know the person. You should be aware of their strengths and weaknesses, their likes and dislikes, and be willing to accept them as they are. Never marry someone with the intention of changing them.

V. GENERAL COMPATIBILITY

Find a person who is a lot like you.

"Can two walk together, except they be agreed?" Amos 3:3

Key areas of agreement include:

Values

Interest

Personal Habits

• Role Expectations

• Energy Level

Use Of Money

Parenting