



SESSION 1/2 | THE ORIGINAL PLAN | SUMMARY SHEET

Malachi 2:15 MSG

GOD, not you, made marriage. His Spirit inhabits even the smallest details of marriage. And what does he want from marriage? Children of God, that's what. So guard the spirit of marriage within you. Don't cheat on your spouse.

Marriage was thought out and created by God.

Matthew 19:3-6 MSG

3 One day the Pharisees were badgering him: "Is it legal for a man to divorce his wife for any reason?" 4-6 He answered, "Haven't you read in your Bible that the Creator originally made man and woman for each other, male and female? And because of this, a man leaves his father and mother and is firmly bonded to his wife, becoming one flesh—no longer two bodies but one. Because God created this organic union of the two sexes, no one should desecrate His art by cutting them apart."

God is clear: Two sexes, male and female, Husband and Wife, man and woman, because our differences make us one and unite us.

It's an Organic union where two that are different have one heart and one purpose"

We have to protect God's art.

Matthew 19:7 MSG

Matthew 19:8-9 MSG

8-9 Jesus said, "Moses provided for divorce as a concession to your hard heartedness, but it is not part of God's original plan. I'm holding you to the original plan..."

People who are struggling in marriage seem to have the "I am stuck" attitude.

Write an organic vision, that contains some non-negotiables, but can be added to repeatedly as God gives you new ideas

HOMEWORK:

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Marriage is a representation of Jesus’ relationship with the Church.

Ephesians 5:25-27 NKJV

Ephesians 4:15 NKJV

...speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head - Christ.

First forgive, then speak the truth in love.

I want to be conformed to the image of Jesus more than I want to be right.

Hebrews 12:2-3 MSG

Isaiah 46:9-10 KJV

9 ...I am God, and there is none like me, 10 Declaring the end from the beginning...

The most significant portion of our love story is how it ends, but with most people, the most significant portion is how it begins.

Which means that: Even if we had a bad start, we can still have an amazing ending.

It does not matter what your past has been, because you can intentionally change it.

Important to set up boundaries for ourselves, that will help us get to the planned destination.

Proverbs 13:22 NLT | Malachi 3:16 NKJV

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Matthew 19:10-12 MSG

10 Jesus’ disciples objected, “If those are the terms of marriage, we’re stuck. Why get married?” 11 But Jesus said, “Not everyone is mature enough to live a married life. It requires a certain aptitude and grace. Marriage isn’t for everyone. 12 Some, from birth seemingly, never give marriage a thought. Others never get asked - or accepted. And some decide not to get married for kingdom reasons. But if you’re capable of growing into the largeness of marriage, do it.”

“Not EVERYONE is mature enough to get married”

We get married to enlarge our lives.

People view marriage as a contract, God views marriage as a covenant.

In the beginning men and women were allies, not enemies, they were co-laborers.

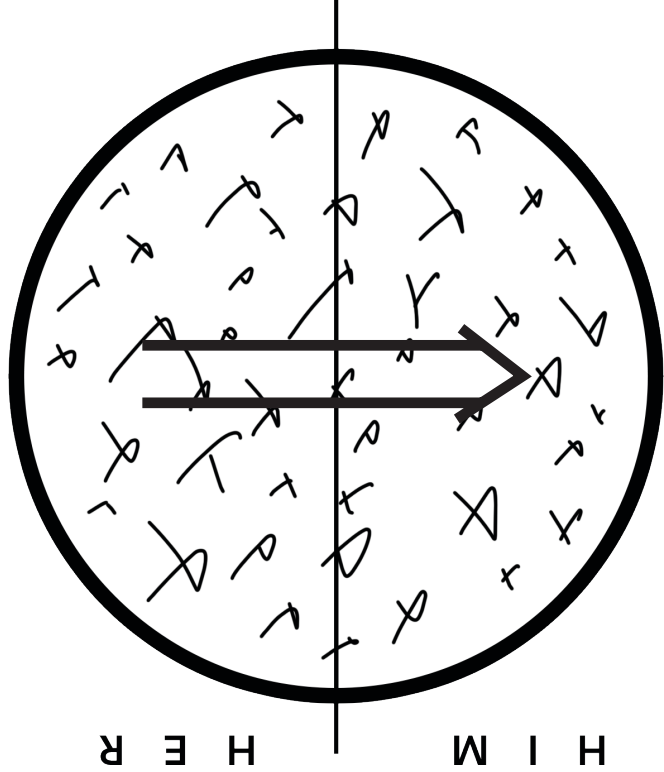
Genesis 1:27 NLT

So God created human beings in his own image. In the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.

NOTES

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Illustration of one flesh:



A smart husband will learn how to draw from his wife, (without intimidating her) what God is putting in her heart, so that together you can make a good decision.

- Dominion: I exercise my authority and influence on ***your*** behalf.
- Domination: I exercise my authority on ***my*** benefit
- Manipulation: I exercise my influence to my benefit.
- Marriage is not a power struggle, marriage is a power union.

NOTES

“We don’t know what the Story of Your marriage is up unto this point, But we do know that you can write a different ending” - Lisa Bevere

Get beyond surviving, You need a large vision for your marriage.

Malachi 2:15-16 MSG

15 GOD, not you, made marriage. His Spirit inhabits even the smallest details of marriage. And what does he want from marriage? Children of God, that’s what. So guard the spirit of marriage within you. Don’t cheat on your spouse. 16 “I hate divorce,” says the GOD of Israel. GOD-of-the-Angel-Armies says, “I hate the violent dismembering of the ‘one flesh’ of marriage.” So watch yourselves. Don’t let your guard down. Don’t cheat.

So watch yourself, not your mate.

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