

Proverbs 22:6 “Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it.”

Malachi 2:15 “Did He not make them one, with a portion of the Spirit in their union? And what was the one God seeking? Godly offspring. So guard yourselves in your spirit, and let none of you be faithless to the wife of your youth.”

- **What are some words that describe your childhood?**
- **What words would you use to describe your parent’s marriage?**

2 Corinthians 6:14 Do not be unequally yoked with unbelievers. For what partnership has righteousness with lawlessness? Or what fellowship has light with darkness?

- **Why is it important for Christians to marry other Christians?**
- **If a Christian has married someone who doesn’t know Jesus, where can that person find hope?**

Genesis 2:24 Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh

Malachi 2:14 “...Because the Lord was witness between you and the wife of your youth, to whom you have been faithless, though she is your companion and your wife by covenant.”

1 Corinthians 7:39 A wife is bound to her husband as long as he lives. But if her husband dies, she is free to be married to whom she wishes, only in the Lord.

- **How do these verses compare with our culture’s view of marriage?**
- **What ideas or images come to mind when you hear the word divorce? Why?**

Matthew 19:3-9 And Pharisees came up to him and tested him by asking, “Is it lawful to divorce one’s wife for any cause?” He answered, “Have you not read that He who created them from the beginning made them male and female, and said, ‘Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh’ So they are no longer two but one flesh. What therefore God has joined together, let not man separate.’ They said to him, “Why then did Moses command one to give a certificate of divorce and send her away?” He said to them, “Because of your hardness of heart Moses allowed you to divorce your wives, but from the beginning it was not so. And I say to you: whoever divorces his wife, except for sexual immorality, and marries another, commits adultery.”

- **How have you been impacted by divorce?**
- **Where can you find hope in terms of recovering from your negative experiences?**
- **Where do you see attacks on marriage in your society?**
- **How have you experienced these attacks in your own life?**
- **What are some practical steps you can take to make your experience with marriage more biblical?**

--- Homework ---

1. Read **Genesis 2:18-25** and answer the following questions:
 - a. How would you summarize the main idea of these verses?
 - b. What are 3 things God teaches us in this passage?
 - 1.
 - 2.

3.

c. How can you apply these verses in your own life?

2. Read **Malachi 2:13-16** then answer the following questions:

a. How would you summarize the main idea of these verses?

b. God views marriage as a covenant. How does that impact your view of what marriage is and what marriage means?

c. How can you apply these verses to your life?

The Malachi Dads Pledge

As a Malachi Dad, I solemnly pledge to glorify God and build His Kingdom by prioritizing the raising of godly children, first in my family, then in the influencing of other men to do the same in theirs. I firmly believe that my transformed life in Christ – my life of integrity, pursuit of this vision, and the pursuit of godly character – will allow me to impact my children, family, and others towards this end.

I will practice a life of daily discipline and dependence on God through prayer and the study of God's Word for the wisdom in how to nurture my children in the admonition of the Lord. I will pursue this endeavor for a lifetime whether my children are in my home or not.

Finally, I believe that my end goal is not only for my children to walk in the Lord but this God-given vision would impact multiple generations to come, so help me God.

Malachi Dads The Heart of a Father

Lesson 6 Questions

“Marriage – Part I”

Memory Verse

Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh.
(Genesis 2:24)

- **What do we learn about marriage from modern movies and TV shows?**
- **What have you learned about marriage so far in your life?**

Genesis 1:26-27 *The God said, “Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.” So God made man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.*

- **Why is it important that God created human beings as male and female?**

Genesis 2:18, 22-25 ¹⁸*Then the LORD God said, “It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make a helper fit for him.”* ²²*And the rib that the LORD God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. Then the man said, “This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man.” Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh. And the man and his wife were both naked and were not ashamed.*

- **What do these verses teach about the institution of marriage?**
- **Why is it important that Adam and Eve were both naked and were not ashamed?**
- **How have you seen marriage provide encouragement and support to the people you know?**