

# KEYS FOR LIVING LIBRARY



THE MARRIAGE AND FAMILY SERIES

# MARRIAGE

*To Have and to Hold*

## What Is God's Heart on Marriage?

The Bible begins and ends with a marriage (see Genesis 2:18–25; Revelation 19:6–9). Throughout Scripture, God gives insight into His heart regarding marriage. The plans He has set out for us are for our benefit—our greatest good and joy.

*“The commandments of the LORD are right,  
bringing joy to the heart.”*

(PSALM 19:8 NLT)

God says that the marriage relationship should . . .

### **Be honored and kept pure**

*“Marriage should be honored by all, and the marriage bed kept pure, for God will judge the adulterer and all the sexually immoral”* (HEBREWS 13:4).

### **Provide companionship and intimacy**

*“Each one of you also must love his wife as he loves himself, and the wife must respect her husband”* (EPHESIANS 5:33).

### **Exhibit unity**

*“For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh.’ So they are no longer two, but one flesh”* (MARK 10:7–8).

### **Last a lifetime**

*“When a woman marries, the law binds her to her husband as long as he is alive. But if he dies, the laws of marriage no longer apply to her”* (ROMANS 7:2 NLT).

### **Not end in divorce**

*“Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate”* (MARK 10:9).

## Not be damaged by hardened hearts

*“Jesus replied, ‘Moses permitted you to divorce your wives because your hearts were hard. But it was not this way from the beginning’”* (MATTHEW 19:8).

## Display Christ’s love for the church

*“Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless”* (EPHESIANS 5:25–27).

## Go Deeper

Want to learn more about this topic? Check out the *Keys for Living Library* to discover biblical hope and practical help on this topic and many more. The *Keys for Living* are designed to help you—and help you help others—overcome difficulties, grow in maturity, and move forward in life.

Thank you for your interest in Hope for the Heart. We pray God will encourage, equip, and empower you with His life-changing truth.

[hopefortheheart.org/keys](https://hopefortheheart.org/keys)

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