

DATING AND MARRIAGE PLEDGES

God Has the Best Plan for Marriage

Preparation

Despite all the current voices to the contrary, doing marriage God's way is the best way to find intimacy and belonging between two people of the opposite sex. God said that this union was good. It was His idea. He said it was a picture of the times to come when His bride, the Church, will be united to Him. Even research shows that sexual satisfaction is greatest when the partners are married.

The Bible has much to say about marriage and is very practical. It shows us that marriage is not all fun and games. There are problems when any group of people has to closely interact with one another. When people become joined as closely as husband and wife, good communication and strategies to defuse stressful situations become essential. There will be many occasions where they will have to problem-solve their way out of conflict. Good husbands and wives also still need to be good Christians. They should show the same kind of love, and put up with shortcomings and flaws, as they would with people outside the marriage. Actually, they need to show even more love toward each other.

As to dating, we have emphasized staying pure and not having sexual intercourse before marriage. If that has not been the case, it can begin right now. The past is the past and cannot be changed. The present is different. We do have control over today, and tomorrow can be bright if we make the right choices today. Let us keep the highest level of intimacy as a special gift for after the ceremony. We have also warned about the real compatibility problems: addictions and spiritual walk with God. We should not be "unequally yoked" in these areas.

If you are dating, you might want to sign the first pledge below as an act of reverence and dedication to God.

If married, sign the second one.

Personal Pledge in Dating

I, _____, pledge myself to God to conduct myself with honor and respect before God and to honor and respect the persons I will date. I will save sexual intercourse for after marriage and will not marry anyone who does not share the faith that God has given me.

Signature

Date

Husband

I, _____, pledge myself to God to conduct myself with honor and respect before God and to honor and respect my wife.

Signature

Date

I will keep myself pure from outside influences and do my best to live my life for God.

Signature

Date

Wife

I, _____, pledge myself to God to conduct myself with honor and respect before God and to honor and respect my husband.

Signature

Date

I will keep myself pure from outside influences and do my best to live my life for God.

Signature

Date