

Intro- Society accepts many “forms” of marriage today.

I. God’s Plan for Marriage – Gen. 2:18-29

- People want “church” weddings for various reasons. _____

- What makes a marriage Christian is how it conforms to God’s plan in the Bible _____

- Genesis 2:18-25 provides several elements in God’s plan for marriage:

1. Knowledge of _____ Genesis 2:18-20

- Social Readiness _____

- Emotional Readiness _____

Problem is that people are at different stages of readiness:

2. Knowledge of _____ Genesis 2:21-23

- In every society, the road from single to married is different.

- The biggest problem is the issue of sex before marriage because sex was designed by God for:
 - Confirm _____
 - Express _____
 - Surrender _____
 - Establish _____
 - Comfort _____
 - Provide _____
- These two were ready for commitment because _____

3. Ready for _____ **Genesis 2:24-25**

- The ceremony, the contract, the blood tests, these only accompany or legitimize the marriage in God and society's eyes.

- Rules to cement a relationship:

Rule #1 – Separate to _____

Rule #2 – Permanence is _____

Rule #3 – Intimacy without _____

Summary

- Review three basic elements in God's design for marriage:

Know _____

Know _____

Know _____

- There is one more element necessary to make a marriage "Christian"

- For a Christian marriage we need to ask the following questions:

1. **Am I** _____

2. **Is My Partner** _____

3. **Are We Devoting** _____

- After all of this someone may ask, "*What if my experience with marriage hasn't lived up to these ideals?*" _____

- There is good news. You can begin over. Here's how:

1. **Begin** _____

2. **Encourage** _____

3. **Do** _____

4. **Rededicate** _____

Is this the day to begin? How? _____