

MARRIAGE AND FAMILY

We believe God has ordained the family as the foundational institution of human society and that the institution of marriage is a sacred covenant that models the love of Christ for His people and to serve as the building block of the family. Marriage is intended to be a lifelong relationship between a man and a woman that endures trials, sickness, emotional stresses and financial crises. Sexual activity should be honored as a gift from God and saved for marriage.

The husband and wife are of equal worth before God since both are created in His image. The marriage relationship models the way God relates to His people. The husband is to love his wife as the Lord loved the church, and he has the God-given responsibility to provide, protect, and be the spiritual leader of his family. The wife is to submit herself graciously to his servant leadership, and respect him.

Children are a blessing and heritage from the Lord to the married couple. Parents are to teach their children spiritual and moral values, and to lead them through their Christian instruction and loving discipline to make choices based on biblical truth. Children are to honor and obey their parents.

Genesis 1:26-28; Exodus 20:12; Deuteronomy 6:4-9; Proverbs 1:8, 13:24, 22:6; Matthew 5:31-32, 19:3-9; Mark 10:6-12; Romans 1:18-32; 1 Corinthians 7:1-16; Ephesians 5:21-33, 6:1-4; Hebrews 13:4; 1 Peter 3:1-7