

THE GOSPEL AND THE GIFT OF MARRIAGE

1 COR 7:10-20

THE ONLY THING CRAZIER THAN LOVE
IS FAMILY

BASED ON THE BEST-SELLING NOVEL

CRAZY RICH ASIANS

ONLY IN THEATERS THIS AUGUST

What women want

1. Taller than me
2. Goes to gym
3. Smells yummy
4. Intelligent
5. Makes me laugh
6. Thoughtful
7. Romantic
8. Loyal
9. Support my dreams
10. Won't mind fake eyelashes & nails

90%



What men want

1. Exquisite in appearance
2. Respects me
3. Hates drama and arguing
4. Fun and optimistic
5. Loyal and has my back
6. Takes care of me
7. Doesn't try to be my mum
8. Doesn't get jealous
9. Okay with my weaknesses
10. Gets along with my friends

75%



Scripture says remain married

1 Cor 7:10 To the married I give this command (not I, but the Lord): A wife must not separate from her husband. 11 But if she does, she must remain unmarried or else be reconciled to her husband. And a husband must not divorce his wife.

THE GOSPEL AND THE GIFT OF MARRIAGE

1 COR 7:10-20

1. Marriage is a gift from God

Marriage is a gift from God



Genesis 2:18 The Lord God said,
“It is not good for the man to be
alone. I will make a helper
suitable for him.”

The world approaches marriage like a transaction



What do we do when we experience losses?

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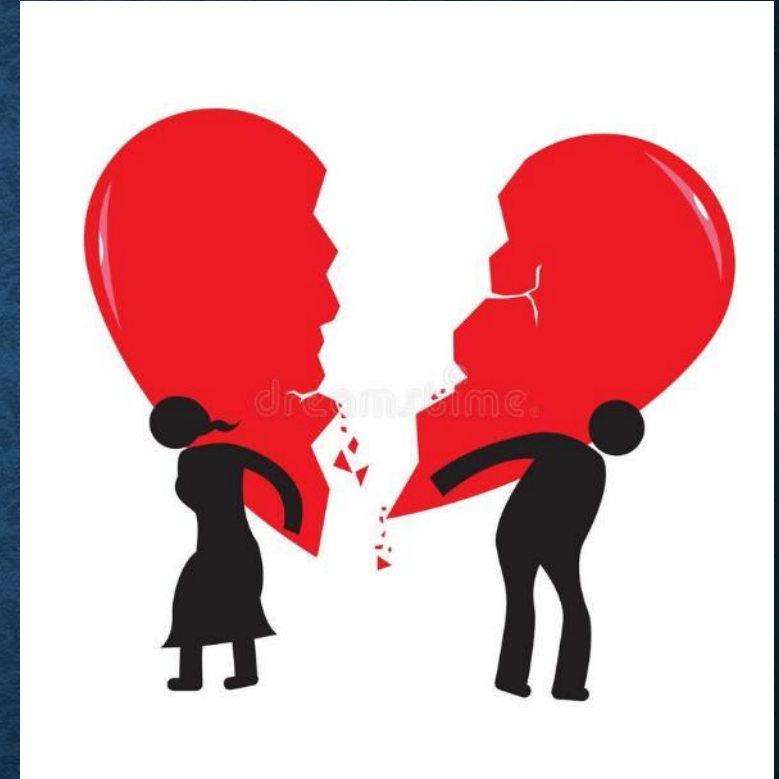
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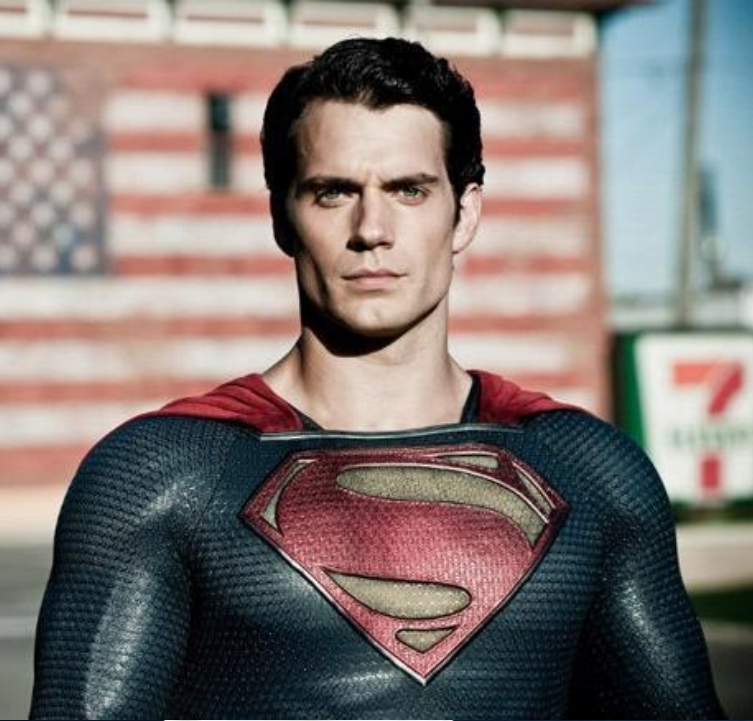
Common reasons for divorce

1. Lack of commitment
2. Constant arguing
3. Infidelity
4. Marrying too young
5. Unrealistic expectations about partner
6. Inequality
7. Abuse
8. Financial problems
9. Conflict about domestic work
10. Lack of family support
11. Religious differences



It is not good for man to be alone

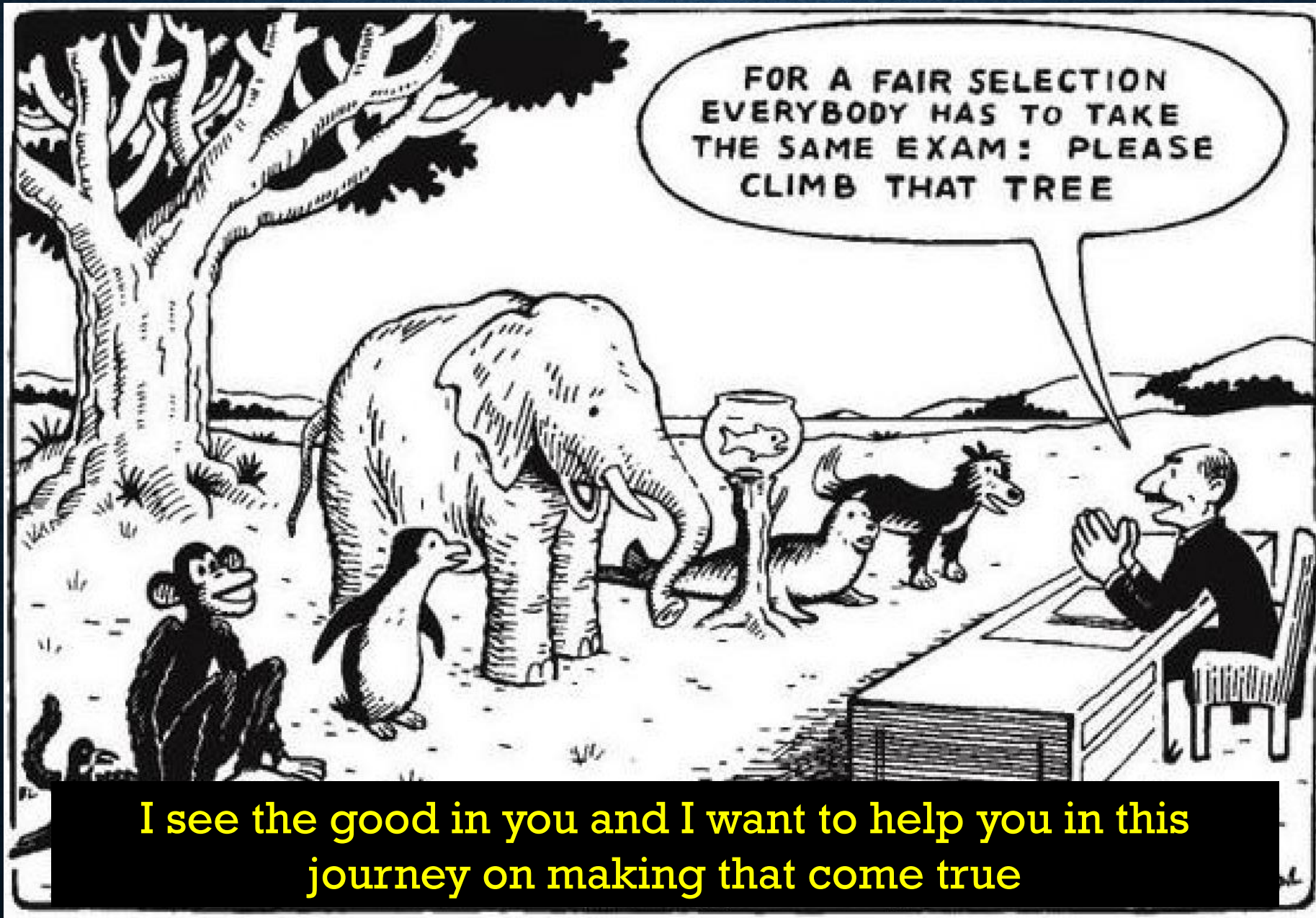
Genesis 2:18 The Lord God said, “It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a **helper suitable** for him.” (Ezer Kenegdo)



Deut 33:29 Blessed are you, Israel! Who is like you, a people saved by the Lord? He is your shield and **helper** and your glorious sword. Your enemies will cower before you, and you will tread on their heights.”



How does an ezer help you?



I see the good in you and I want to help you in this journey on making that come true

How does an ezer help you?



When Michelangelo was asked how he carved the statue of David, he answered: "It's simple. I just remove everything that is NOT David"

It's about what I want, don't try to change me

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Care for our spouse

Ephesians 5:26...to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, 27 and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless. 28 In this same way, **husbands ought to love their wives as their own bodies.** He who loves his wife loves himself.



THE GOSPEL AND THE GIFT OF MARRIAGE

1 COR 7:10-20

1. Marriage is a gift from God (Ezer kenegdo)
2. Marriage is a commitment

Remain in marriage

1 Cor 7:10 To the married I give this command (not I, but the Lord): A wife must not separate from her husband. 11 But if she does, she must remain unmarried or else be reconciled to her husband. And a husband must not divorce his wife.

12 To the rest I say this (I, not the Lord): If any brother has a wife who is not a believer and she is willing to live with him, he must not divorce her. 13 And if a woman has a husband who is not a believer and he is willing to live with her, she must not divorce him. 14 For the unbelieving husband has been sanctified through his wife, and the unbelieving wife has been sanctified through her believing husband. Otherwise your children would be unclean, but as it is, they are holy.

Marriage is a commitment

Genesis 2:23 The man said,

Commitment

“This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called ‘woman,’ for she was taken out of man.”

Leave

One Flesh

24 That is why a man leaves his father and mother and is united to his wife, and they become one flesh.

Full transparency and acceptance

25 Adam and his wife were both naked, and they felt no shame.

Spouses have immense power



Ephesians 4:15 Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ

To build or to destroy?

Speaking the truth in love



The role of an ezer - Godly tantrum



Give each other the right to hold one another accountable.



Love is a decision, the feelings will follow

Modern Marriage Vows

I knew you were "the one" when I realized that you truly are a better person than me.

I admire you and look up to you for all the good you bring to this great big world.

You are so blessed with the rare heart of a servant and your thoughtfulness touches everyone's life you are a part of.

Your core is one of a kind and I am the richest girl to get to marry you,

Traditional Marriage Vows

I [Name] take you [Name] to be my wife/husband,

to have and to hold from this day forward,

for better, for worse,

for richer, for poorer,

in sickness and in health,

to love and to cherish,

till death us do part,

according to God's holy law.

In the presence of God

I make this vow.

For the singles

1. God is your ezer.
2. The church is your ezer
3. Tips for those looking for a future spouse.
 - You must be old and mature enough.
 - It can't be forced. Trust God and don't rush it.
 - Pray
 - Ask your mentors and friends.
 - Do you have a common horizon?
 - Do both of you see the good and bad and both of you are committed to journeying together.

New York Times Bestselling Author of
THE REASON FOR GOD and *THE PRODIGAL GOD*

TIMOTHY KELLER

with KATHY KELLER

THE MEANING OF MARRIAGE

Facing the Complexities of Commitment
with the Wisdom of God

THE GOSPEL AND THE GIFT OF MARRIAGE

1 COR 7:10-20

1. Marriage is a gift from God
2. Marriage is commitment
3. Marriage is ministry

1 Cor 7:15 But if the unbeliever leaves, let it be so. The brother or the sister is not bound in such circumstances; God has called us to live in peace. 16 **How do you know, wife, whether you will save your husband? Or, how do you know, husband, whether you will save your wife?**

Concerning Change of Status

17 Nevertheless, each person should **live as a believer in whatever situation the Lord has assigned to them**, just as God has called them. This is the rule I lay down in all the churches. 18 Was a man already circumcised when he was called? He should not become uncircumcised. Was a man uncircumcised when he was called? He should not be circumcised. 19 Circumcision is nothing and uncircumcision is nothing. Keeping God's commands is what counts. 20 **Each person should remain in the situation they were in when God called them.**

Secular view of marriage



Christian view of marriage



Christian view of marriage



When two Christians who fully understand this stand before the minister all decked out in their wedding finery, they realize they're not just playing dress-up. What they're saying is that someday they are going to be standing not before the minister but before the Lord. And they will turn to see each other without spot and blemish. And they hope to hear God say, 'Well done, good and faithful servants. Over the years you have lifted one another up to me. You sacrificed for one another. You held one another up with prayer and with thanksgiving. You confronted each other. You rebuked each other. You hugged and you loved each other and continually pushed each other toward me. And now look at you. You're radiant.'

Motherhood is a ministry

I Am "Not Working", I Am A Housewife




Sonia Kapoor

Marketing Research, Purpose Branding, Co-Active Coach

4 articles

April 27, 2022



A close-up photograph of a human hand gently cradling a small, dark, fluffy chick on a sandy surface. The hand is positioned with the palm up, and the chick is nestled in the center. The background is a soft, out-of-focus yellow, suggesting a sandy or grassy area. The overall mood is tender and protective.

The hand that rocks the
cradle is the hand that
rules the world.

- W. R. Wallace

Marriage and motherhood as ministry

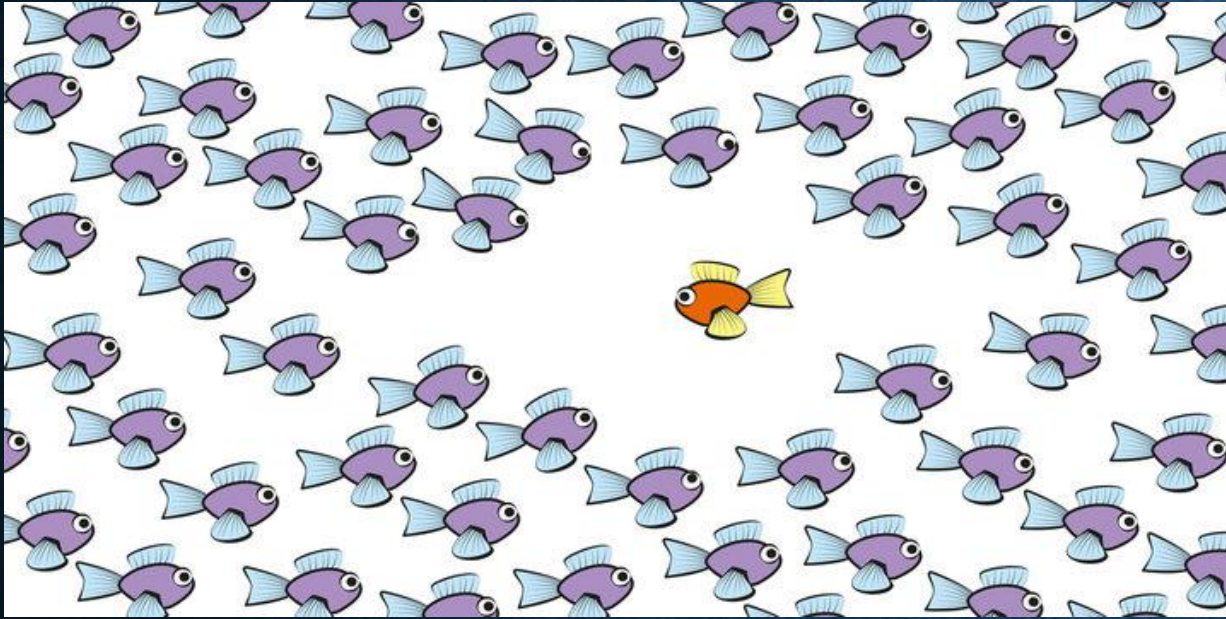


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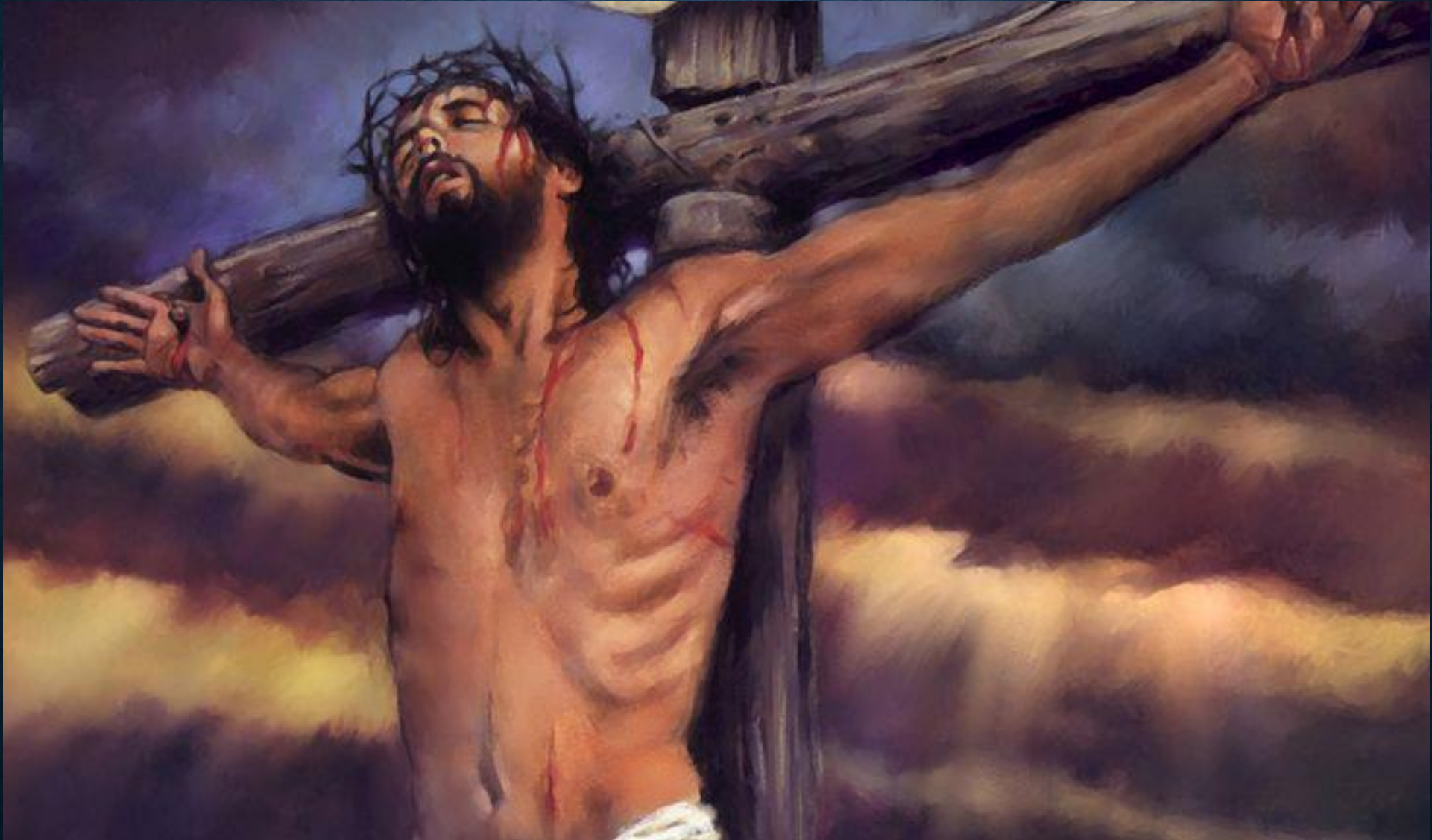
1 COR 7:10-20

1. Marriage is a gift from God
2. Marriage is commitment
3. Marriage is ministry
4. Marriage is founded on Christ

It's not easy. What drives us?



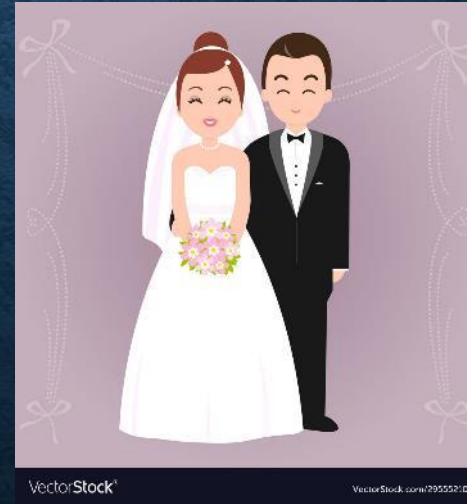
What drives us?



Jesus is the true ezer

Jesus works through others too

I love You, Lord
Oh, your mercy never failed me
All my days, I've been held in your hands
From the moment that I wake up
Until I lay my head
Oh, I will sing of the goodness of God
And all my life you have been faithful
And all my life you have been so, so good
With every breath that I am able
Oh, I will sing of the goodness of God



Discuss

1. What are you thankful for in your marriage?
2. How has being married made you better?
3. What is one thing you want to do this week because you love your spouse and family?

Children are encouraged to join in the conversation

Benediction

Numbers 6:24-26

24 “The Lord bless you
and keep you;

25 the Lord make his face shine on you
and be gracious to you;

26 the Lord turn his face toward you
and give you peace.”