

Marriages in the Bible Series

Abraham and Sarah:
The Spouse that Caused
much Grief.

Genesis 12:10-20

What Is the Meaning of Marriage?

Marriage is a covenant commitment between a man and a woman who are legally and spiritually joined together as husband and wife.

Malachi 2:14-15 (KJV)

¹⁴ Yet ye say, Wherefore? Because the LORD hath been witness between thee and the wife of thy youth, against whom thou hast dealt treacherously: yet *is she thy companion, and the wife of thy covenant.*

¹⁵ And did not he make one? Yet had he the residue of the spirit. And wherefore one? That he might seek a godly seed. Therefore take heed to your spirit, and let none deal treacherously against the wife

*The marriage covenant is not just between
two people,
but between two people and God.*

Genesis 12:10
The Spouse that Caused much
Grief.

Abraham had faith, but not mature faith:

- Famine in the land v 10
- Fair wife v 11
- Fear of Egyptians v 12
- Forked tongue v 13

Problem:

There was a role reversal. Abraham was to protect Sarah, not the other way around.

Protect and Provide

Ephesians 5:25 (KJV)

²⁵ Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it;

Problem:

Abraham was acting self-centered.

We need to be God centered spouses.

What happens in a Marriage that Lacks

Honest and Intimate Communication When dealing With a Self-Centered Spouse.

- Not confronting will lead to becoming fearful and insecure
- Not being direct will lead to statements that never get to the root of the problem
- Not willing to work through problems can be the result of a stubborn spirit
- Not accepting responsibility will cause you to become defensive when confronted
- Not acknowledging your mate's feelings will lead to rejecting your mate emotionally
- Not concerned about your mate's needs is a result of a self-centered attitude
- Not displaying affection is taking your mate for granted

Two people can be going through the outward rituals of a marriage, yet one or both can be selfishly pursuing individual personal goals.

The way to enjoy intimate communication is to be as concerned about your partner's needs as about your own.

"Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others." (Philippians 2:4)

The fall-out of Abraham not trusting
God

(lack of faith)

but rather scheming and lying about
Sarah being his sister.

Vs.14 Sarah was taken to Pharaoh's
house

How did Sarah feel towards Abraham
at this moment?

1 Peter 3:6 (KJV)

**⁶ Even as Sara obeyed Abraham,
calling him lord:
whose daughters ye are,
as long as ye do well, and are not
afraid with any amazement.**

Husbands be careful you lead your wife in a godly way or you will cause much pain to yourself and to those you love.

Fall-out of Abraham's trip to Egypt:

Everything Abraham received in Egypt caused problems later on.

1. Because of wealth, Lot and Abraham could not live together and had to separate Gen. 13:5-6
2. Hagar, the Egyptian maid servant, brought division and sorrow into the home. Gen 16
3. Lot had a taste of the wealth of Egypt (the world) and started measuring everything by that standard. This led to the downfall and the ruin of his family.

Wives give your husbands time to grow in
their walk with the Lord

Gen 13:1-4

Marriage Covenant Keeper

If you are going to be a godly covenant keeper, you will not forsake your marriage covenant even though your spouse may have caused you intense grief at a point in your marriage.

**Everyone has been created with three
God-given inner needs:
Love, Significance and Security**

**What if my spouse does not meet my
inner needs?**

Everyone has been created with three God-given inner needs:

• Love

"I [the Lord] have loved you with an everlasting love; I have drawn you with loving-kindness." (Jeremiah 31:3)

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• Security

"The Lord himself goes before you and will be with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged." (Deuteronomy 31:8)

*As a covenant keeper, you are singly
responsible to
demonstrate your covenant of love and
loyalty even if
your mate does not respond as you would
like.*

*Keeping a marriage covenant will require
"death to self"
through a willingness to make difficult
personal sacrifices.*

Biblical Counseling Keys - Biblical Counseling Keys - Biblical Counseling Keys:
Marriage: To Have and to Hold.

Galatians 2:20 (KJV)

²⁰ I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I
live;
yet not I,
but Christ liveth in me:
and the life which I now live in the flesh I
live by the faith of the Son of God,
who loved me, and gave himself for me.

*Developing the strength of character
required to keep a lifetime commitment is
a continual process of submitting your will
to God,
and allowing Him to develop the character
of Christ in you.*

