

“God’s Purposes For Oneness”

Dennis Rainey, who I have credited frequently as the major contributor to my sermon series on Marriage, through his excellent book, **Lonely Husbands, Lonely Wives**, writes these words: *One problem in so many marriages today is that partners have so many and varied purposes for getting married. The result is that husband and wife sign on for a lifetime voyage, but set sail for different harbors. It’s no wonder that eventually they end up in different ports, their ship in two pieces – isolated and alone.* – Ibid., pp 105-106.

Please stand with me, grab your Bibles, and let’s look at our texts together:

- **Genesis 2:20-25** (p. 2)
- **Mark 3:25** (p. 814)

FOCUS: God’s plan for marriage is ONENESS! Oneness means a couple has to move together towards the same goals and destination. They can only do that successfully by understanding and pursuing God’s Purposes for Marriage.

Let’s look together at these five M’s:

Purpose 1: To **M**_____ God’s Image.

We were created to **mirror** God. We were created **MALE AND FEMALE** to mirror God! And He did that from the very beginning.

Purpose 2: To **M**_____ a Godly Heritage.

When God created Adam and Eve, He blessed them and told them to “Be fruitful and fill the earth...” – **Genesis 1:28**.

It is true that the Bible does NOT tell us how many children are enough, but it may well be equally true that many if not most

Christians today are “planning” their families based on worldly thinking far more than on directions from God.

God intends marriage to be a place to raise up new generations of Christians who have the opportunity to grow up in the Christian faith. Fewer and fewer are having that opportunity because fewer and fewer Christians are having many children today.

God’s plan for Marriage is that it will be a fertile bed raising up a fruitful harvest of souls for the kingdom of God.

Purpose 3: To **M**_____ God’s Realm. – **Genesis 1:28**

A house divided cannot stand – it’s just that simple! No household can stand if a husband and wife will NOT work together!!! They will suffer, as a result. Children will suffer, as a result. Cities and nations will suffer, as a result. The world will be a darker place, as a result. And the cause of Christ will suffer, as a result. Do not think – do NOT think – that your marriage is yours alone, or that it is insignificant. **It impacts us all!**

- **CONSISTENCY** is crucial!!!

Purpose 4: To **M**_____ Complete One Another.

That is why God said, in **Genesis 2:18** (NIV), “It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him.”

Purpose 5: To **M**_____ Christ’s Relationship to the Church.
– **Ephesians 5:22-33** (p. 949)

Let me ask you this: ***What could possibly be more important than YOU making YOUR marriage an accurate representation of Christ and His church?***