

## **D2 Phase 3 Introduction**

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### **Dating, Marriage and Family Relationships**

#### **Purposes of This Phase**

- I. To establish the biblical principles that govern all relationships**
  
- II. To give the Christian an understanding of how the family structure pictures the body of Christ, and how marriage pictures the relationship between Jesus Christ and his Church**
  
- III. To establish the absolute authority of the word of God in family matters**

# D2 Phase 3

## Dating, Marriage and Family Relationships



**I. Dating**

A. The **purpose** of dating 1Cor. 7:27, Prov 18:22

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B. The Biblical **principles** governing dating 2 Cor. 6:14-18, Num 25:1-5, Eph 4:2-3, 1 Cor 9:5,7

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C. The Biblical **process** of dating 1Thes. 5:21-22

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D. The Biblical **power** for purity, 2 Tim 2:22; 1 Cor 6:18; 1 Cor 10:13; 2 Pet 2:9; Lev 20:7; 1 Pet 1:15; Matt 22:37-38; James 4:7; Prov 30:5; Phil 4:8; Psalm 119:11; 1 Tim 5:2; 1 John 1:9; 2 Cor 7:1; 1 Tim 1:5

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**II. Engagement**

A. The **purposes** of engagement 1 Thes 5:21-22

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B. Bible **principles** governing engagement

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C. Bible models of engaged couples Gen 29:18-21, Mat 1:18-20, Luke 2:1-5, 2 Cor 11:2-3; Eph 5:31-32

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**III. Marriage**

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**Family Relationships Today**

1. Those married in a religious ceremony
2. Those married in a civil ceremony
3. “Common-law” marriage after living together
4. Open marriage (the female legally stayed under the household of her birth)
5. Having a mistress (especially popular in the workplace)

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A. The Biblical **definition** of marriage

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1. Marriage is a spiritual COVENANT, Mal 2:14-15; Prov 2:17

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2. Marriage has a social CEREMONY, John 2; Matt 22:2-4; 25:10

a. We live in a country where the state regulates marriage, 1 Cor 7:12-13; Heb 13:4, Gen 4:17, Gen 28:8-10, 1 Sam 25:3

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b. You find it in the Bible, John 2; Matt 22:3-12; Rev 19:9

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3. Marriage results in sexual CONSUMMATION, 1 Cor 7:1-5

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B. The Biblical **progression** of marriage

1. Gen 2 – The perfect standard
2. Deut 24 – The law of divorce
3. Matt 5 & 19 – Jesus establishes his middle standard

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4. 1 Cor 7 – Paul establishes the governing principles for the church. 2 Cor 11:1-3

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C. The Biblical **purpose** for marriage

1. Marriage is for **procreation**, Gen 1:28, Mal 2:15

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2. Marriage is for **pleasure**, Prov 5:18-19

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3. Marriage is for **partnership**, Gen 2:18

4. Marriage is for a **picture**, Eph 5:23-32, Eph 5:31-32

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5. Marriage is for **purity**, 1 Cor 7:2

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D. The Biblical **principles** governing marriage. Matt 19:8

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1. There is a Biblical **foundation**

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a. God desires **permanence** for marriage

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- 1) There will be the challenge of **consequences**, Gen 2 (Adam & Eve)
  - 2) There will be the challenge of **conflict**, Hos 1,3 (Hosea & Gomer)
  - 3) There will be the challenge of **circumstances**, Matt 1:18-21 (Joseph & Mary)
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**The Bible records allowance for divorce for the “three A’s”**

- Adultery (which broke the marriage covenant)
- Abandonment (which happens because of hardness of heart)
- Physical Abuse (while God hates divorce, he hates murder worse)

b. God declares **pardon** for broken marriages, John 8:1-11, Rom 8:1; 1 Cor 7:39

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2. There is a Biblical **function**

a. A design for **leadership** that requires love and respect, Eph 5:33

- 1) What the husband’s role as **leader** means. Eph 5:25, 1 Pet 3:7a, 1 Pet 3:7b

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2) What the wife’s role as **helpmeet** means. 1 Cor 7:3-5, Gen 2:18; 1 Pet 3:7b, Eph 5:33

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b. A design for **fellowship** that requires maturity, Eph 4:30-32

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- 1) Kindness
- 2) Tenderhearted

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3) Forgiving.

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- c. A design for **relationship** that requires a special partnership, 1 Cor 11:3, Gal 3:28

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- 1) Commitment, Song of Solomon 8:6

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- 2) Communication, Song of Solomon 8:13

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- 3) Compassion

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**Conclusion**

- If you are married and Christ is not the head of your home, turn to the Lord

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- If you are divorced, ask God to forgive you and move on

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- If you are thinking about getting a divorce, think again

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**Resources for “home” work**

- Sexual Purity* by Tony Evans, Moody Publishers, 1995
- Divorce and Remarriage* by Tony Evans, Moody Publishers, 1995
- Guiding Your Family in a Misguided World* by Tony Evans, Focus on the Family
- Tony Evans Speaks Out on a Man’s Role in the Home* by Tony Evans, Moody, 2002
- Tony Evans Speaks Out on a Woman’s Role in the Home* by Tony Evans, Moody, 2002
- Money Before Marriage* by Larry Burkett, Moody Publishers, 1996

**Suggested reading**

- Countdown for Couples: Preparing for the Adventure of Marriage* by Dale & Susan Mathis, Focus on the Family, 2008
- Before You Get Engaged* by David & Brent Gudgel, Danielle Fitch, Nelson, 2007
- Intended for Pleasure* by Ed & Gayle Wheat
- His Needs, Her Needs* by Willard F. Harley
- Love for a Lifetime* by Dr. James Dobson
- Love & Respect* by Dr. Emerson Eggerichs, Thomas Nelson, 2004

**IV. Family and children, the basic unit of civilization – a structure of 3’s.** Eph 5:21; John 8:31-36; 1 Cor 7:20-24; 9:19

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**A. The basic role of the father/husband is leader**

1. To the family – provider – 1 Tim 5:8
2. To the wife, Eph 5:23, 1 Tim 2:14-15, Eph 5:25-27, Deut 24:5

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3. To the children – teach the next generation – Psa 78:1-8; Gal 4:2, Isa 38:19, Eph 6:4, Gen 18:19, Deut 6:5-9, Tim 3:4-5, Prov 22:6, Matt 18:6, Psa 103:17-18

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**\* An aside on child-ruling – 1 Tim 3:4, 1 Thes 5:12, Titus 3:8,14, Prov 23:13-14, 1 Kings 1:5-6**

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B. The basic role of the mother/wife is keeper, 1 Pet 3:1-6; Gen 12:10-20; 20:1-16

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1. The career of the female is to **guide** the house – 1 Tim 5:13-14, Prov 31:13-31

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2. The career of the female is to **guard** the house – Titus 2:3-5

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3. Understand you are not a “doormat” by doing this – women have identity, interests, “career.” Gen 3:6; Job 2:9; 1 Tim 2:11-15; Gen 21:1-7; Matt 27:19

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- C. The role of children in the home is obedience to parents, Eph 6:1-3, Ex 20:12,5

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**V. The widowed and other special needs**

- A. 1 Tim 5:3-16 is the definitive passage

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B. The majority of cases

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C. The minority of cases, Acts 6:1; Rom 12:13; 1 Pet 4:8-10

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D. The handicapped, mentally ill, etc.

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**VI. Relating to your immediate family**

A. Parents

1. Leave and cleave, Gen 2:21-24

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2. Honor them, Eph 6:1-3, Exodus 20:12

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B. Brothers and sisters, Mark 6:4; Prov 18:19

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**VII. Relating to your extended family**

A. Grandparents, cousins, etc. Rom 12:15; Acts 11:27-30; 2 Cor 8:1-15; 1 Cor 13:4-8, 1 Pet 2:17 ; Col 3:12-15

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B. In-laws

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**Notes**

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**D2 Phase 3**  
**Dating, Marriage and Family Relationships**



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**Self-evaluation**

**What should I have learned from this section?**

*1. Give two or three principles to govern dating.*

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*2. Give 2 or 3 principles to govern engagement, and provide biblical examples.*

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*3. Define marriage “in God’s sight” and support your position from the word of God.*

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*4. What passage of scripture sets the standards for all marital relationships? What is that basic standard?*

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**5. Briefly define the basic family roles of husband, wife, and children.**

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**6. To the married: Do I relate to my spouse properly according to Eph 5:22-23? In what ways can I improve this area of my life?**

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**7. To the single: Do I have a healthy biblical relationship with the opposite sex? How can I achieve this?**

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**8. To the parents: How can I use the Bible to help my children in the areas of dating, engagement and marriage?**

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**Key verses to commit to memory:**

All: Eph 4:31-32; 1 Thess 5:21; Phil 4:11; Ladies: Eph 5:22-24; Men: Eph 5:25-27