

Together We Are Stronger: The Blessings of Marriage

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The Paradox of Marriage

Getting married is easy. Staying married is more difficult. Staying happily married for a lifetime would be considered among the fine arts.

Author

Unknown

The Process of Marriage

However carefully and wisely marriage may have been entered into, few couples are completely united when the marriage ceremony is performed. The real union of the two in wedlock is the work of the after years.

Ellen G White, *The Adventist*

Home, p. 105.

Four Predictors of Marital Success/Distress

- Family of Origin
- Individual Characteristics
- Social Contexts
- Couple Interaction Processes

The Reality of Marriage

Your marriage will *naturally* move toward a state of alienation.

The Probability in Marriage

The presence of Christ alone can make men and women happy. All the common waters of life Christ can turn into the wine of heaven. The home then becomes as an Eden of bliss; the family, a beautiful symbol of the family in heaven.

Ellen G White,

The Adventist Home, p. 28

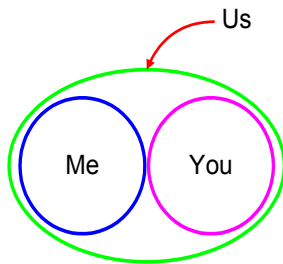
God's Blueprint for Marriage

So then, they are no longer two but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let not man separate.

Matt. 19:6

(NKJV)

The Mystery of Oneness



Differentiated Oneness

Ellen White and Individuality in Marriage

God requires that the wife shall keep the fear and glory of God ever before her. Entire submission is to be made only to the Lord Jesus Christ, who has purchased her as His own child by the infinite price of His life...It is a mistake to imagine that with blind devotion she is to do exactly as her husband says in all things, when she knows that in so doing, injury would be worked for her body and her spirit, which have been ransomed from the slavery of Satan. There is One who stands higher than the husband to the wife; it is her Redeemer, and her submission to her husband is to be rendered as God has directed—"as it is fit in the Lord."

Ellen G White, *The Adventist Home*, p.

116.

The Imperative of Unity

There should exist in the minister's family a unity that will preach an effectual sermon on practical godliness.

Ellen G White, *Gospel Workers*, pp.

204-5.

The Promise of Success

I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

Philippians 4:13

(NKJV)