

Marriage Worksheet

for a shower, wedding gift, anniversary,
or general encouragement

Matthew 5:27-28 “Lord, do whatever it takes to keep us faithful—keeping all our promises to you and to each other. Amen.” *The Meaning of Marriage: A Couple’s Devotional* by Timothy and Kathy Keller

James 1:19-21 “Sometimes the good and right thing will be to engage in conflict with our spouse. When that’s the case, the Bible makes it clear that we are to engage humbly and carefully.” *Marriage and Mentoring*, The Austin Stone Church

Ephesians 5:22-33 “Marriage is an expression of Christ’s love for His church. Christ knows everything about His church, and still, He pours out the full measure of His love and forgiveness time and time again.” *Marriage and Mentoring*, The Austin Stone Church

James 3 “Be your spouse’s number one fan. Both in private and public elevate your spouse. Why not bless his or her name all the time? Words shape life—for better or for worse.” Jen Oshman

Matthew 5:21-24 “We are tempted to believe a subtle lie about the relationship between marital conflict and our relationship with God—that we can have unresolved conflict with our spouse and still have perfect communion with God.” *Marriage and Mentoring*, The Austin Stone Church

Revelation 19:6-8 “But this is the Story, and thus, the Wedding. All other weddings are shadows that point to this One, the ultimate joining of Christ and His Bride, the Church.” Dylan Lebeau

Acts 17:24-28a “Here we find one of the most vital preparations you could ever make for marriage: Learn to seek God above all else. Learn to be satisfied in Jesus Christ. Learn to appreciate the infinite riches you have been granted in Him so that marriage assumes the proper place in your heart and life.” *Catching Foxes*, John Henderson

2 Peter 3:18 “Lord, help us to together “grow in grace and knowledge” of you.” *The Meaning of Marriage: A Couple’s Devotional* by Timothy and Kathy Keller

Romans 12:10b “Find ways to honor your spouse regularly. Avoid disrespecting each other in verbal or nonverbal ways. Seek to honor each other in front of others. While Paul is speaking to all Christians, his admonition is a good goal in marriage, “Outdo one another in showing honor.” Tony Merida

Matthew 16:24-25 "We find our lives when we follow our Lord and pour ourselves out. When we treat our spouses preferentially, it is for their good, for our joy, and for the glory of God." Jen Oshman

1 Corinthians 13:4-6 "Father, I pray that your love will allow us to love one another... freely (vs. 4), humbly (vs. 4), respectfully (vs. 5), selflessly (vs. 4-5), and graciously (vs 5.)" 5 Things to Pray for Your Spouse, Michael and Melissa Kruger

Song of Solomon 8:6-7 "If we're going to be faithful to the end, we will often have to lean into the covenant that we made with our spouse and with the Lord." Matt Chandler, Mingling of Souls

Revelation 19:9 "Jesus's love for his church is the ultimate meaning of marriage. This is the message and drama Christians seek to live out and show to the world as we make our vows, and anticipate the coming marriage supper of the Lamb (Revelation 19:9). This is the story of marriage." David Mathis

Ephesians 4:32 "A faithful marriage doesn't mean a perfect marriage. Spouses will fail each other and sin against one another. When that happens, we have the great opportunity to repent and seek forgiveness, and to extend forgiveness. Forgiven people forgive people, and therefore, each spouse should reflect deeply on God's forgiveness to reflect his forgiveness to the other." Tony Merida

Hebrews 12:2 "The counter-intuitive truth of the Christian life is that joy is granted when we deny ourselves. Our Savior endured the cross "for the joy set before him" (Heb. 12:2). In the same way, when we seek the good of our spouse, when we forsake ourselves, we find joy." Jen Oshman

Psalms 86:11 "Lord, I pray that you would make us, as a married couple, interdependent students of your Word. Lord "teach us your way, that we may walk in your truth," and so "unite our hearts to fear your name." Amen." The Meaning of Marriage: A Couple's Devotional by Timothy and Kathy Keller

Genesis 2:24 "After God made the first woman and entrusted this remarkable gift to the man, God instituted what we call marriage. Two persons becoming one new entity." David Mathis

Proverbs 18:22 "You are God's favor to your husband, so bring him good as best you can. Under Christ, you are God's greatest blessing in your husband's life!" Jani Ortlund

Colossians 3:19 "We must avoid harshness (Col. 3:19) and strive after deep affection for one another." Tony Merida

Ephesians 5:25-27 "The Bible tells spouses not only to imitate the quality and manner of Christ's love but also the goal of it. Jesus died not because we are lovely, but to make us lovely...to make us holy. Paul is urging spouses to help their mates love Jesus more than them." - Tim Keller, The Meaning of Marriage

Ephesians 4:22 "Paul does not tell us to treat our spouses well because it's the right thing to do. He doesn't say to serve them because they deserve it. Through Paul, God commands us to sacrificially love our spouses because God himself deserves it. Our kindness in marriage is "to the Lord." Jen Oshman

Genesis 1:1 "...the four most important marriage words that have ever been written are the first four words of the Bible: "In the beginning God" (Gen. 1:1). Marriage is God's creation, it's God's process, it's God's work. It's meant to be lived in a Godward way." Paul David Tripp

Genesis 1:27 "God says, 'I didn't put a parent and a child in the garden, I put a husband and a wife. When you marry your spouse, that must supersede all other relationships, even the parental relationship. Your spouse and your marriage must be the number one priority in your life.'" - Tim Keller, The Meaning of Marriage

Colossians 3:17 "Right before imparting specific marital instructions in his letter to the Colossians, Paul said, "whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him" (Col. 3:17). Our treatment of our spouses is meant to flow from our love for Jesus and our gratitude to the Father." Jen Oshman

Genesis 2:21 "Verse 21 especially shows this by the way God makes the woman while Adam was sleeping. It was all God's work, making it clear she's in no way inferior to man. She, too, was divinely created." Darin Smith for For the Church

Matthew 19:6 "...Jesus reinforces God's vision of marriage in creation: "What God has joined together, let not man separate." Sin may challenge, but it does not overturn, God's original design. Marriage, in fact, is made to endure sin. God means for the two to become one, and not for the one to be torn apart into two." David Mathis for Desiring God

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Philippians 2:3-4 "Instead, delight yourself in seeking the happiness of your spouse through living out the commands of Philippians 2:3-4. Count your spouse as more significant than yourself by honoring his preferences and emulating the humility of Christ." Stacy Reaoch for Desiring God

1 Peter 4:8-9 "Through Christian marriages, the story of the gospel - of sin, grace, and restoration - can be seen and heard both inside the church and out in the world. Christian marriages proclaim the gospel." - Tim Keller, The Meaning of Marriage

1 John 4:19 "Genuine, other-focused, Christ-centered love is not born through begrudgingly succumbing to duty. No, love is born out of remembering and celebrating. When I remember the lavish, faithful, patient, forgiving, and empowering love that has been poured on me, I will want to give that love away to someone else." Paul David Tripp

John 13:34-35 "Marriage is not 50/50, it's 100/100.... Here's the problem with that: your half will always look bigger than your spouse's. If you slip into subconsciously keeping score, your score will always be higher. Instead, give 100% even if you sense your spouse is giving less. This is sacrificial love. Love hard because Jesus deserves it, not your spouse." Jen Oshman