

# Certificate of Marriage



*This Certifies that*

Shepherding Series  
The Bible and Marriage

*ated by*

*and*

*Name of Person Solemnizing*



# The Bible and Marriage

- Two weeks on marriage and related topics
  - Contrasting what God says to what our culture says



# The Bible and Marriage

This relates to you if:

- You are married
- You want to be married one day
- You know someone who is married
- You know someone who wants to marry one day

# The Bible and Marriage

- Marriage in our culture
- Marriage in our congregation
- Marriage in the Bible



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# Marriage in Our Culture

*This Certifies that*

The probability of a first marriage reaching its 20th anniversary was 52% for women and 56% for men in 2006–2010.

- National Survey of Family Growth, CDC

*and*

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# Marriage in Our Culture

Forty-eight percent of women interviewed in 2006–2010 cohabited with a partner as a first union, compared with 34% of women in 1995.

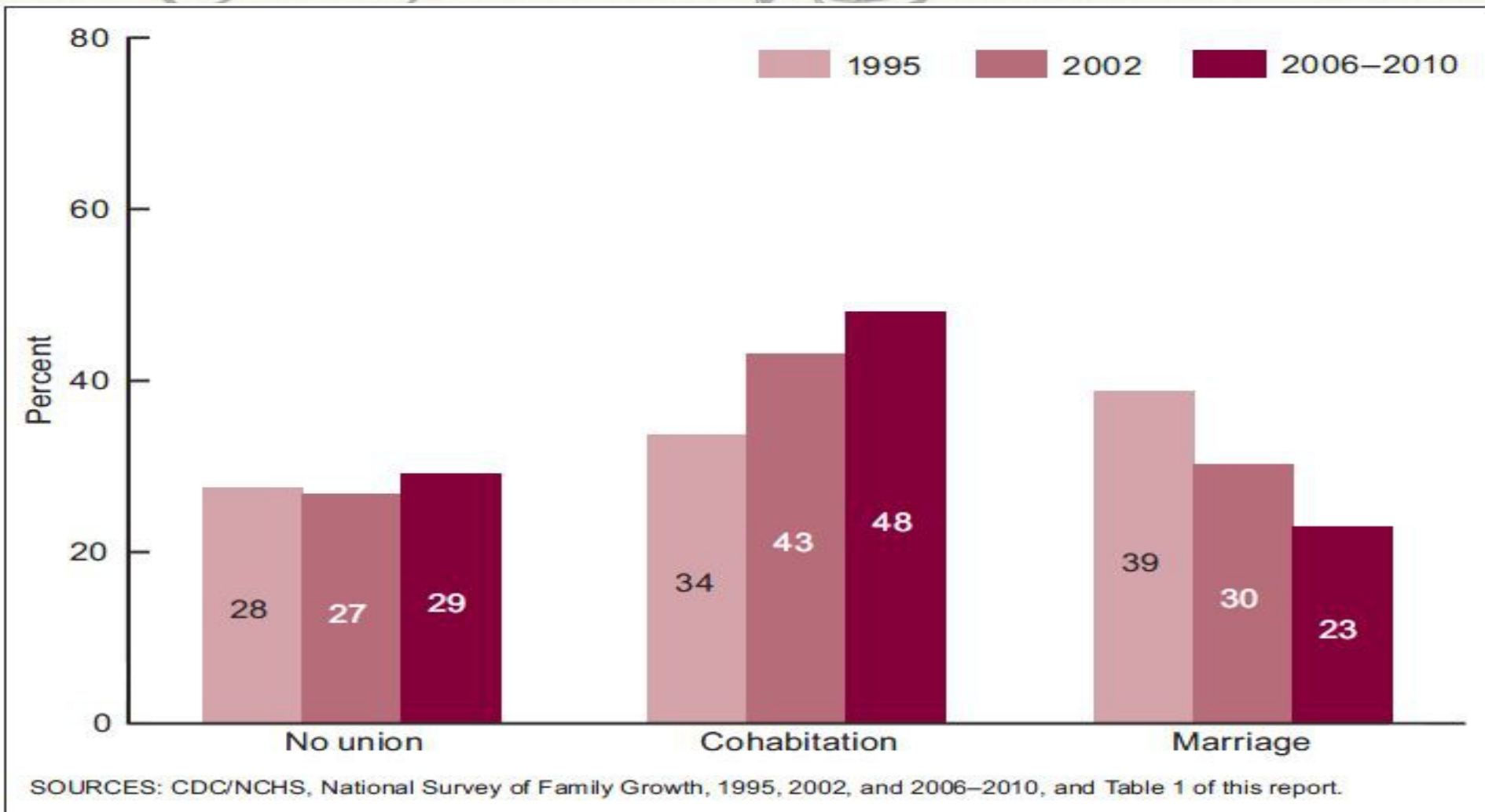
- National Survey of Family Growth, CDC

# Marriage in Our Culture

The rise in cohabitation as a first union over this time period led to a lower percentage of women aged 15–44 whose first union was a marriage: 23% in 2006–2010, compared with 30% in 2002 and 39% in 1995.

- National Survey of Family Growth, CDC

# Marriage in Our Culture



**Figure 1. Type of first unions among women aged 15-44: United States, 1995, 2002, and 2006-2010**



# Marriage in Our Culture

A recent report on fertility using the 2006–2010 NSFG showed that 23% of recent births among women aged 15–44 occurred within cohabitation, a significant increase from 14% in 2002

- National Survey of Family Growth, CDC

# Marriage in Our Culture

CNN: Face it: Monogamy is unnatural (June 21 2013)  
“It's time for our culture to wake up and smell the sex pheromones: monogamy is not natural for many, or probably even most, humans.”

# Marriage in Our Culture

*This Certifies that*

US Supreme Court strikes down portion of DOMA

- Federal government cannot withhold federal benefits from gay marriages that have been sanctioned by the state.

Thirteen states currently allow gay marriage.

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# Marriage in Our Culture

But there is another perspective...



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# Marriage in Our Culture

But there is another perspective...

“The family [is] founded on indissoluble marriage between a man and a woman”

- Pope Francis

# Marriage in Our Culture

But there is another perspective...

“At the origin of every man and woman, and thus in all human fatherhood and motherhood, we find God the Creator. For this reason, married couples must **accept the child born to them**, not simply as theirs alone, but also **as a child of God**, loved for his or her own sake and **called to be a son or daughter of God.**”

- Pope Francis

# Marriage in Our Culture

But there is another perspective...

ROME, July 5, 2013 (LifeSiteNews.com) – In his first encyclical letter, released this morning, Pope Francis has reiterated that marriage is a **union of one man and one woman for the procreation and nurturing of children.**

# Marriage in Our Culture

A culture in conflict!

- Indissoluble marriage
- Between a man and a woman
- For the procreation and nurturing of children

- Almost 50% divorce rate
- Gay marriage
- For selfish gratification



# Marriage in Our Culture

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- Almost 50% divorce rate
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What does the Bible say?

# Marriage: Culture vs Bible

**Eph 4:17** So I tell you this, and insist on it in the Lord, that you must no longer live as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their thinking.

**Eph 4:18** They are darkened in their understanding and separated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them due to the hardening of their hearts.

**Eph 4:19** Having lost all sensitivity, they have given themselves over to sensuality so as to indulge in every kind of impurity, with a continual lust for more.

**Eph 4:20** You, however, did not come to know Christ that way.

# Marriage: Culture vs Bible

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**We must be different!**

# Marriage in Our Congregation

## Marriage problems we have seen

- Not fulfilling biblical roles
  - Selfishness
  - Deceit
  - Materialism
  - Financial irresponsibility
- Hurtful language
  - Broken trust
  - Infidelity
  - Lack of forgiveness
  - Separations and divorces

# Marriage in Our Congregation

Help is available to avoid “train wreck”, but...

- Some are not being open about needing help
- Some not seeking help until it's a “train wreck”



# Marriage in Our Congregation

*This Certifies that*

**Mat 5:13** "You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled by men.

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# Marriage in Our Congregation

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Unhealthy marriages harm the cause of Christ!

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# Certificate of Marriage

## Marriage in the Bible

*This Certifies that*

Our culture has new theories about marriage

- How's that working out?

*the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_*

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# Certificate of Marriage

## Marriage in the Bible

Our culture has new theories about marriage

- How's that working out?

God has shown us a better way!

# Certificate of Marriage

## Marriage in the Bible

*This Certifies that*

**Gen 2:18** The LORD God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him."

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**Gen 2:24** For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and they will become one flesh.

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Between a man and a woman.

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# Marriage: Between Man and Woman

**Rom 1:25** They exchanged the truth of God for a lie, and worshiped and served created things rather than the Creator—who is forever praised. Amen.

**Rom 1:26** Because of this, God gave them over to shameful lusts. Even their women exchanged natural relations for unnatural ones.

**Rom 1:27** In the same way the men also abandoned natural relations with women and were inflamed with lust for one another. Men committed indecent acts with other men, and received in themselves the due penalty for their perversion.

# Marriage in the Bible

Jesus commented on Gen 2:24

\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_  
were united in marriage on this day,  
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# Marriage in the Bible

Jesus commented on Gen 2:24

**Mat 19:4** "Haven't you read," he replied, "that at the beginning the Creator 'made them male and female,'  
**Mat 19:5** and said, 'For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh'?  
**Mat 19:6** So they are no longer two, but one. Therefore what God has joined together, let man not separate."



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Indissoluble marriage

# Marriage in the Bible

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# Marriage in the Bible

Malachi comments on Gen 2:24

**Mal 2:15** Has not the LORD made them one? In flesh and spirit they are his. And why one? Because he was seeking godly offspring. So guard yourself in your spirit, and do not break faith with the wife of your youth.



*This ceremony was solemnized*

*and*

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Procreation and nurturing of children

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Procreation and nurturing of children

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# Marriage in the Bible

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**Eph 5:31** "For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh."

**Eph 5:32** This is a profound mystery—but I am talking about Christ and the church.

**Eph 5:33** However, each one of you also must love his wife as he loves himself, and the wife must respect her husband.

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A godly marriage relationship



# Marriage in the Bible

Being a godly husband

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# Marriage in the Bible

## Being a godly husband

**Eph 5:25** Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her

**Eph 5:26** to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word,

**Eph 5:27** and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless.

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**Eph 5:27** and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless.

Not what is portrayed in the media!

# Marriage in the Bible

Being a godly wife

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# Marriage in the Bible

## Being a godly wife

**Eph 5:22** Wives, submit to your husbands as to the Lord.

**Eph 5:23** For the husband is the head of the wife as Christ is the head of the church, his body, of which he is the Savior.

**Eph 5:24** Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit to their husbands in everything.

# Marriage in the Bible

## Being a godly wife

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**Eph 5:24** Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit to their husbands in everything.

A sharp contrast to our culture!

# Marriage in the Bible

## Fathers in the Media

1950's: Breadwinner and wise disciplinarian

- Father Knows Best
- Leave It to Beaver

1970's: Archie Bunker

- Dysfunctional bigoted dad

# Marriage in the Bible

## Fathers in the Media

1980's – 2000's: The Idiot Dad

- Homer Simpson
- Married with Children
- Family Guy
- Everybody Loves Raymond



# Marriage in the Bible

## Fathers in the Media

1980's – 2000's: The Idiot Dad

- Homer Simpson
- Married with Children
- Family Guy
- Everybody Loves Raymond

It's no wonder fewer men want that job!

# Marriage in the Bible

## Fathers in the Media

2009: Modern Family

- Same-sex parents

2010: Parenthood

- Stay-at-home Dad
- Mom as breadwinner

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Seeking an alternative to the Bible way

# Marriage in the Bible

## Fathers in the Media

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- Same-sex parents

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Seeking an alternative to the Bible way

**1Co 1:20b** Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world?

# Marriage in the Bible

Principles for a Great Marriage  
from the Sermon on the Mount



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# Marriage Principles from the Sermon on the Mount

Be a peacemaker!

\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_  
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# Marriage Principles from the Sermon on the Mount

Be a peacemaker!

Mat 5:9 Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called sons of God.



*the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_*  
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# Marriage Principles from the Sermon on the Mount

Be urgent about reconciliation

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# Marriage Principles

## from the Sermon on the Mount

Be urgent about reconciliation

**Mat 5:23** "Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you,

**Mat 5:24** leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to your brother; then come and offer your gift.

# Marriage Principles from the Sermon on the Mount

**Forgive** \_\_\_\_\_ verifies that

\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_  
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\_\_\_\_\_  
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# Marriage Principles

## from the Sermon on the Mount

Forgive

**Mat 6:14** For if you forgive men when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you.

**Mat 6:15** But if you do not forgive men their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins.

# Marriage Principles

## from the Sermon on the Mount

Forgive

**Mat 6:14** For if you forgive men when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you.

**Mat 6:15** But if you do not forgive men their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins.

Forgiveness is not optional!

# Marriage Principles from the Sermon on the Mount

Put God first! *that*

*and* \_\_\_\_\_  
*were united in marriage on this day,*  
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# Marriage Principles

from the Sermon on the Mount

Put God first! *that*

**Mat 6:33** But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

*This ceremony was witnessed*

*and*

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# Marriage Principles from the Sermon on the Mount

## The Golden Rule

\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_  
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# Marriage Principles

## from the Sermon on the Mount

### The Golden Rule

**Mat 7:12** So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you, for this sums up the Law and the Prophets.



*This ceremony was witnessed*

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# Marriage Principles from the Sermon on the Mount

## The Golden Rule

**Mat 7:12** So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you, for this sums up the Law and the Prophets.

That sums it up!

# Marriage in the Bible

## The call to the marrieds

\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_  
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# Marriage in the Bible

The call to the marrieds

Jesus is Lord!



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# Marriage in the Bible

The call to the marrieds

Jesus is Lord!

Reject the ungodly standards of our culture.

Get help early and often.

Glorify God in your marriage!

Continuing next week...

# Marriage in the Bible

## The call to the singles

\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_  
were united in marriage on this day,  
the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ in the year \_\_\_\_\_.

This ceremony was witnessed and celebrated by

\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Person Solemnizing



# Marriage in the Bible

The call to the singles

Jesus is Lord!



Name of Person Solemnizing

# Marriage in the Bible

The call to the singles

Jesus is Lord!

Reject the ungodly standards of our culture.

Don't settle for less!

More for you next week.