

The Vow
Marriage Renewal
February 14, 2010

From the beginning of time it's always been God's plan for men and women to get married. God created marriage, He created love, He created sex, He created family...It was all His idea. Marriage was the first institution that God ever created. In fact when God looked down after creating Adam He said "It is not good for man to be alone" (Genesis 2:18) and created a helpmate, lover and wife for him. After creating Eve and bringing she and Adam together God looked down and said "It is very good" (Genesis 1:31)

Genesis 2:25 "The man and his wife were both naked, and they felt no shame."

In other words there was nothing to hide between them. How do we get to the place in our marriage where we have nothing to hide from one another?

Ladies:

Read and think about these verses: Proverbs 21:19, 19:13 & 21:9

What are ways that ladies belittle, berate and emasculate their husbands? Do you talk negatively about your husband to other people? How do you treat your husband in front of other people? Are you more likely to speak positively or negatively about your husband?

Men:

Read and think about these verses: 1 Peter 3:7 & Ephesians 5:25-33

What are some of the ways that Christ has shown you love? How well are you showing your wife love? Do you treat your wife in a manner publicly that another woman would be afraid to approach you in an inappropriate manner?

What are the ingredients of a marriage that lasts forever? The Bible says that Faith, Hope and Love will remain forever. (1 Corinthians 13:13)

The Bible says that faith and hope are intertwined. "Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see" (Hebrews 11:1). No matter what condition your marriage is in, it can get better. Change in our marriage begins with hope. What do you hope to see in your marriage in 5 days? 5 months? 5 years? For that to become a reality we must believe that through faith in Christ, our vision can become a reality. What does God want YOU to do to make your marriage better?

What are some of the misconceptions about love that you had before you were married?

Why does the misconception of love hurt so many relationships?

Read 1 Corinthians 13. From a biblical standpoint, what is love? It has been said that love is a decision not a feeling. Do you believe that is true?

What kind of advice about love would you give to singles before they marry?