

MARRIAGE AND SANCTITY  
BY  
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# OUTLINE

- Introduction
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- The present reality
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# Introduction: Marriage and Sanctity



- God created woman because ***"it is not good for man to be alone"*** (Genesis 2:18). For this reason a man is joined to the woman in marriage. **Therefore a man leaves his father and his mother and cleaves to his wife, and they become one flesh. Genesis 2:24<sup>1</sup>**
- God planned for man and woman to unite in love; marriage therefore, provides a solid foundation for romantic love.
- It gives the couple the grace to grow into a union of heart and soul, and to provide stability for themselves and their children.



For the Christian, marriage is a vocation, a real supernatural calling, a path to holiness. It is a permanent contract till death. A vocation is a path or a mission entrusted by God to man to which he is drawn and through which he seeks holiness (sanctity).



Marriage is designed to satisfy that deep search for intimacy. But this intimacy is not simply the joining of two bodies in a sexual experience. It is the joining of two souls in the deepest possible way.



Intellectually, emotionally, socially, spiritually and physically, the two are joined together.



This intimacy grows with each passing day, if the couple is determined to make it work.



Marriage is a journey not a destination. It is surrounded by ever changing conditions, as such it is dynamic, not static.

**Can marriage be considered a path to holiness?**

**YES!**

- Marriage is holy. God established the union of the man and woman. Jesus confirmed it in the New Testament with the following words, "Wherefore they are no more twain, but one flesh. What therefore, God hath joined together, let not man put asunder" (Matt. 19:5).
- The holiness of marriage is independent of the couple. It is holy solely because God has established it with His Word. By nature, that which is holy is dedicated to the service of God.
- God has intended that marriage would serve Him and both husband and wife labour to keep it holy by living in it, according to His Word. All other aspects of married life fall into place when the marriage is dedicated unto the service of God and to help fulfill His will.



The healthiest marriages are those in which both parties maintain separate identities and uniqueness but share a common purpose which is to fulfill God's plan for their union.



- This understanding of unity offers each person in the marriage the opportunity to experience the maximum freedom that God intended for His creatures to enjoy.
- Within the boundaries of the marriage relationship, both the husband and wife are to fully pursue their calling under God- in an atmosphere of mutual trust and respect. Marriage is a covenanted bond and not bondage!

**The Christian marriage is intended to serve God's purposes.**

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graph TD; A([The Christian marriage is intended to serve God's purposes.]) --> B([Marriage is both unitive (companionship) and procreative and both can be mutually exclusive.]); A --> C([The first purpose is that of a "help mate." "And the Lord God said, it is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a help meet for him" (Gen. 2:18).]); B --> D([The second purpose is that of procreation. "And God blessed them, and God said unto them, be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth" (Gen. 1:28).]); C --> D;
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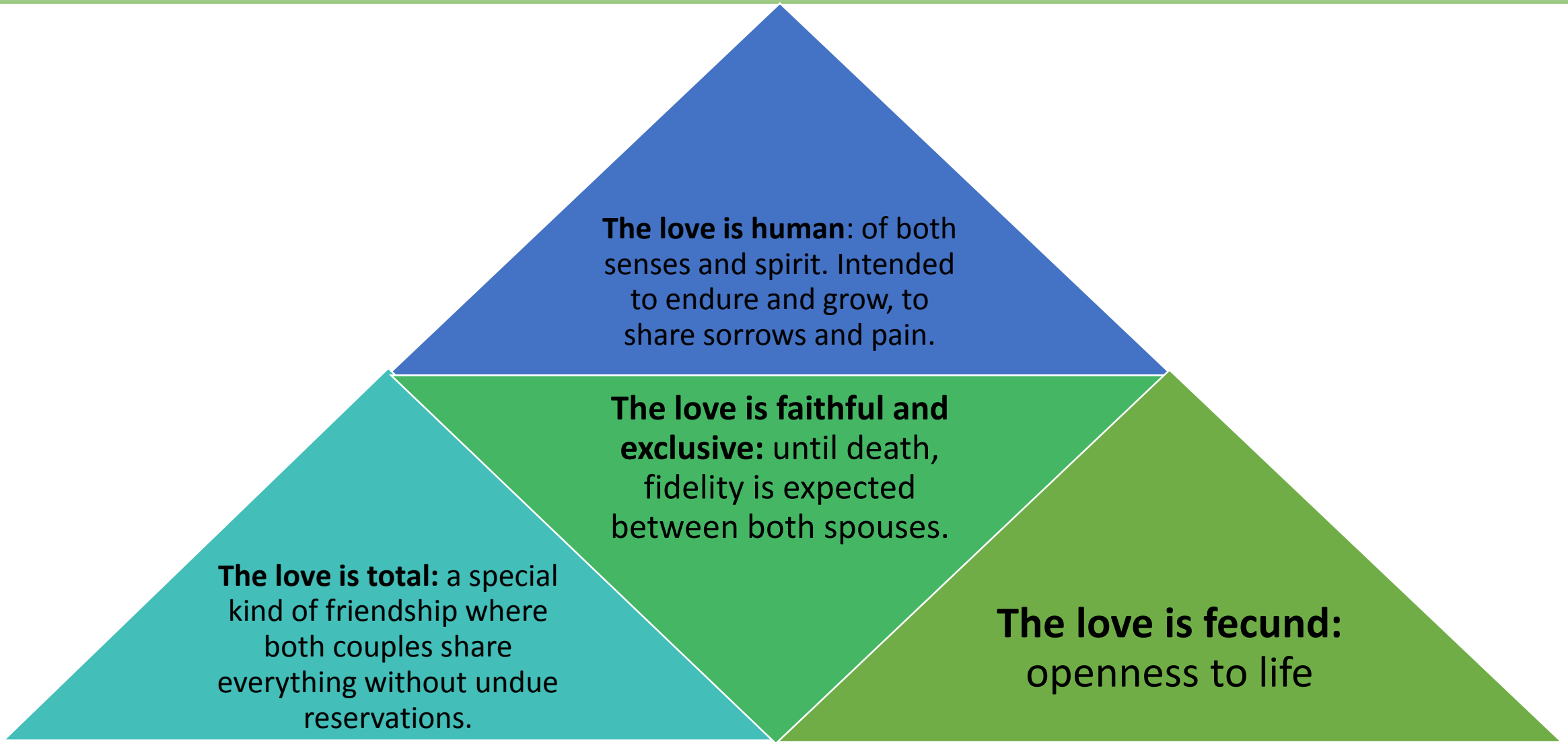
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# The true marks of conjugal love



# What is Fidelity?



**Fidelity can be defined as a voluntary, effective and complete dedication of a person to a cause. It is love for truth, to know how to love and not be led only by one's impulses.**

# The four dimensions of fidelity

**Searching for more:** fidelity is firmly founded on patient and dedicated research, a longing to find a reason for being, a reason for living, and an impulse to continue fighting. It means recognizing one's limitation and seeking to be better, a fill up of the spiritual vacuum.

**Coherence:** living out one's beliefs. It means following through even when it is not conducive. Each one must live in accordance to what he is. Married couples should be conscious of their responsibility to make their home a constant fountain of joy.

**Acceptance:** to be willing and accept is the crucial moment of fidelity. Making room in one's heart. It is opening one's heart to those ideals which are elusive for reachable.

**Constancy:**  
fidelity must  
withstand the  
most demanding  
test of time.



# The present reality; challenges in marriage

Our society seems intent on destroying the family.

Marriage is threatened by:

the plagues of divorce

relativism

secularization.

Same-sex unions and co-habitation have undermined the meaning of marriage, calling into question its very purpose.

In fact, divorce is not only common, but it is expected in almost half of today's marriages. Many children are raised without discipline, and their potential is dashed by abuse or neglect.

# Common complaints about wives

She nags

She never praises

She spends too much

She's never home and finds reasons to be out

She is nosy; she gossips

She tells lies

She is always late

She's bossy and takes a lot of time dressing up

She's a bad cook

She does not dress as nice any more.....



# Common complaints about husbands

He is always out with the boys

His meetings run late into the night

He takes me for granted

He only thinks of himself

He's bossy and domineering

He is a tightwad with me but spends a lot on himself

He does not help out at home.....



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But there are examples throughout history of how strong families have formed the true foundation of society. These families have provided correction to society by bringing up new generations of leaders and saints.

Marriage and family can work. They can provide an opportunity to grow in holiness, strengthen the culture in which we live, overcome the greatest obstacles, and succeed.



# The way forward

- The first step to a beautiful marriage is to “**want to**”
- Dialogue
- Avoid blame game
- Forgive
- Fight for it
- Pray together and for one another
- Seek advice from right sources
- Spend quality time together
- Make room for mistakes
- Fall in love again and again.....



# Conclusion

The many problems that come up in marriages namely: financial struggle, infertility or challenging children, unfaithfulness, disinterest, immaturity, sickness, etcetera can be turned into opportunities for the couple to bond better and build a lasting relationship. It is possible.

**We have to fight for it!**

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- .....another related documents

**Thank you for your  
kind attention  
and  
active participation.**



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