



IN &
OUT®

English Standard Version

*Marriage
Without
Regrets*

LEARNING HOW TO
BECOME ONE

IN & OUT®

English Standard Version

MARRIAGE WITHOUT REGRETS
LEARNING HOW TO BECOME ONE

© 2014 Precept Ministries International. All rights reserved.

This material is published by and is the sole property of Precept Ministries International of Chattanooga, Tennessee. No part of this publication may be reproduced, translated, or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying, recording, or any information storage and retrieval system, without permission in writing from the publisher.

Precept, Precept Ministries International, Precept Ministries International The Inductive Bible Study People, the Plumb Bob design, Precept Upon Precept, In & Out, Sweeter than Chocolate!, Cookies on the Lower Shelf, Precepts For Life, Precepts From God's Word and Transform Student Ministries are trademarks of Precept Ministries International.

Scripture taken from *ESV Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®)*.
Copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers.
Used by permission. All rights reserved.

1st edition

Printed in the United States of America



PAGE	CONTENTS
	LESSONS
1	LESSON ONE: Man! Woman! What's the Difference?
7	LESSON TWO: What Is the Role of a Woman?
15	LESSON THREE: Submission—How Far Does It Go?
21	LESSON FOUR: What Is the Role of a Man?
35	LESSON FIVE: Will the Model Man and the Model Woman Please Stand Up!
47	LESSON SIX: Talk to Me!
55	LESSON SEVEN: What Is Love?
61	LESSON EIGHT: “Love” Begins and Ends in Your Head!
69	LESSON NINE: What Does God Say About Sex?
77	LESSON TEN: How Permanent Is Marriage?
87	LESSON ELEVEN: What About Divorce?
95	LESSON TWELVE: The Trial of Divorce and Remarriage!
105	LESSON THIRTEEN: Tithing—A Biblical Perspective!
109	LESSON FOURTEEN: Finances—A Major Problem in Marriage!
115	LESSON FIFTEEN: What Is God's Pattern for the Home?
125	LESSON SIXTEEN: How Do You Train Up a Child God's Way?
	APPENDIX
	Observation Worksheets
137	Genesis 1:24-31
139	Genesis 2
141	I Corinthians 11:3-12
142	I Peter 3:7-12
143	Ephesians 5:15-33
145	I Peter 2:18-3:6
147	Proverbs 31:10-31
149	James 3:1-12
151	Matthew 19:3-12
152	Malachi 2:13-17
153	Matthew 5:27-32
154	Mark 10:2-12



155	The Role of a Woman
156	The Role of a Man
157	The Four Greek Words for Love
161	A Study on Masturbation
165	A Brief History of Israel Through Her Captivity
167	How to Do a Chapter Study



MAN! WOMAN! WHAT’S THE DIFFERENCE?

Marriage Without Regrets! It’s a wonderful title for a course on marriage, isn’t it? Wonderful, yes! But is it possible? Can you have a marriage without regrets in a day and age when well over half of the marriages in the United States of America are ending in divorce? Can a marriage endure the pressures of an amoral society? Can two people weather the storms of mid-life crises? Can only one mate make a marriage work? If you are in a second marriage, is there any hope for you as far as God is concerned? Can you— from this time forward—have a marriage without regrets?

The answer to all these questions is an unequivocal yes. But it is also a qualified yes. Qualified in the sense that a marriage without regrets will not mean a marriage without testings, trials, and conflicts. Nor will it mean a marriage that fulfills some idealistic dream of your imagination. When I speak of a marriage without regrets, I am talking of a marriage that is so lived according to God’s Word that when it is over, you will be able to look back and say, “I was all that God wanted me to be as a wife or as a husband.”

“But,” you may say, “I didn’t know all this until I had been married for years!”

We understand. God does too! However, from this day on, you can go forward in your marriage. From this day on, it can be a marriage without regrets. You cannot change your past, Beloved. You can weep over it, constantly relive it, become depressed over it; but none of that will change it, nor will it help you to go forward. So, forgetting those things that are behind, let us press on toward a marriage lived without regrets.

Marriage Without Regrets is a course for everyone. Single, divorced, widowed, or married—you must know what God has to say about marriage.

Your knowledge of God’s Word regarding men, women, their roles, and marriage can be used of God to equip you to live and to minister in a world which has seemingly gone mad.



Although there are many excellent books on the subject of marriage, I felt God impressing me with the need for an inductive Bible study course on the subject. Why? Because I believe that our minds need to be renewed on exactly what God's Word has to say about this institution. There are so many voices in this world expounding so many philosophies, psychologies, ideologies, and traditions of men. But are they truth? Do they hold to the plumb line of God's Word?

If you do not know what God's Word says about the roles of men and women, their God-given responsibilities, their differences;

If you do not know what God's Word says about love, sex, communication, raising children, managing finances;

If you do not know what God's Word says about the permanence of marriage, about divorce and remarriage; then you are not thoroughly equipped for life. Marriage and the home are the bedrock of society, ordained of God to be an earthly picture of a divine institution!

It is time for us to examine the standards by which we live. Whatever does not measure up to truth must be forsaken in order that truth might not be adulterated by society.



TAKING IT IN

If you are going to know how to live as a husband, as a wife, as a single man or as a single woman, you must first understand who you are and how God made you. Therefore, we will begin by getting the facts through observing what God has to say on the subject. Then we will find out what it all means and how we can apply it to our lives. We will be observing some of the key passages in the Bible which deal with our creation and its purpose.

1. Form the habit of beginning each week's study in prayer. Biblical truth comes by revelation, not by mere intellect, for ". . . no one comprehends the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God" (1 Corinthians 2:11). Therefore, seek His wisdom and understanding. Also, please do not go to commentaries unless you are directed to do so.
2. Genesis, the first book of the Bible, tells us that in six days God created the world and everything in it. Man was created on the sixth day. Therefore, we will begin our study by doing some simple observations on Genesis 1:24-31. You will find a copy of Genesis 1:24-31 in the Appendix. Read through this passage of Scripture and then do the following:



- a. Mark references to *God* with a \triangle or color them one particular color. Then list everything you learn from this passage about God's relationship to man.

If you have a copy of *How to Study Your Bible* by Kay Arthur and have the time, you will find it beneficial to read the section entitled "Focusing in on the Details." What you are doing in simplified form is some basic observations. If you don't have this book, you may want to see "How to Do a Chapter Study" in the Appendix of this Marriage Without Regrets book.
 - b. Now mark references to *man* with a  and references to a *woman* with a  or color them different colors.
 - c. You will find a chart at the end of this lesson entitled "Man! Woman! What's the Difference?" Under the appropriate column list what you learned about each from Genesis 1. As you record your insights, note from which chapter and verse you gleaned your insight.
3. Read through Genesis 2, which is in the Appendix.
 - a. Mark references to *man* or *woman* the same way you did in Genesis 1.
 - b. Record your insights on men and women on the chart "Man! Woman! What's the Difference?"
 4. Now, let's look at another passage that deals with the relationship between men and women. Our goal for this week is simply to familiarize ourselves with some of the fundamental passages that deal with men and women. We shall study them in greater depth later in the course.

A copy of 1 Corinthians 11:3-12 is in the Appendix. Read it through, but please do not get sidetracked on issues such as what a woman should or should not have on her head. As you have done previously, mark references to the man and the woman, and then record your observations on the chart "Man! Woman! What's the Difference?"
 5. In the Appendix you will find a copy of 1 Peter 3:7-12. Read it and mark the text as you did in the previous questions. Note any pertinent insights on men and women on your chart.



MAN! WOMAN! WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE?

Insights	Man	Woman
Created by		
Created for		
Created from		
Relationship to God		
Distinctive Characteristics		



GENESIS 1:24-31

Observation Worksheet

- 24** And God said, “Let the earth bring forth living creatures according to their kinds—livestock and creeping things and beasts of the earth according to their kinds.” And it was so.
- 25** And God made the beasts of the earth according to their kinds and the livestock according to their kinds, and everything that creeps on the ground according to its kind. And God saw that it was good.
- 26** Then God said, “Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.”
- 27** So God created man in his own image,
in the image of God he created him;
male and female he created them.
- 28** And God blessed them. And God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth.”
- 29** And God said, “Behold, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is on the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit. You shall have them for food.
- 30** “And to every beast of the earth and to every bird of the heavens and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food.” And it was so.
- 31** And God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.



GENESIS 2

Observation Worksheet

THUS the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them.

2 And on the seventh day God finished his work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all his work that he had done.

3 So God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it God rested from all his work that he had done in creation.

4 These are the generations
of the heavens and the earth when they were created,
in the day that the LORD God made the earth and the heavens.

5 When no bush of the field was yet in the land and no small plant of the field had yet sprung up—for the LORD God had not caused it to rain on the land, and there was no man to work the ground,

6 and a mist was going up from the land and was watering the whole face of the ground—

7 then the LORD God formed the man of dust from the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living creature.

8 And the LORD God planted a garden in Eden, in the east, and there he put the man whom he had formed.

9 And out of the ground the LORD God made to spring up every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food. The tree of life was in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

10 A river flowed out of Eden to water the garden, and there it divided and became four rivers.

11 The name of the first is the Pishon. It is the one that flowed around the whole land of Havilah, where there is gold.

12 And the gold of that land is good; bdellium and onyx stone are there.



- 13 The name of the second river is the Gihon. It is the one that flowed around the whole land of Cush.
- 14 And the name of the third river is the Tigris, which flows east of Assyria. And the fourth river is the Euphrates.
- 15 The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it.
- 16 And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, “You may surely eat of every tree of the garden,
- 17 but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die.”
- 18 Then the LORD God said, “It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper fit for him.”
- 19 Now out of the ground the LORD God had formed every beast of the field and every bird of the heavens and brought them to the man to see what he would call them. And whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name.
- 20 The man gave names to all livestock and to the birds of the heavens and to every beast of the field. But for Adam there was not found a helper fit for him.
- 21 So the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and while he slept took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh.
- 22 And the rib that the LORD God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man.
- 23 Then the man said,
- “This at last is bone of my bones
and flesh of my flesh;
she shall be called Woman,
because she was taken out of Man.”
- 24 Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh.
- 25 And the man and his wife were both naked and were not ashamed.



1 CORINTHIANS 11:3-12

Observation Worksheet

- 3 But I want you to understand that the head of every man is Christ, the head of a wife is her husband, and the head of Christ is God.
- 4 Every man who prays or prophesies with his head covered dishonors his head,
- 5 but every wife who prays or prophesies with her head uncovered dishonors her head, since it is the same as if her head were shaven.
- 6 For if a wife will not cover her head, then she should cut her hair short. But since it is disgraceful for a wife to cut off her hair or shave her head, let her cover her head.
- 7 For a man ought not to cover his head, since he is the image and glory of God, but woman is the glory of man.
- 8 For man was not made from woman, but woman from man.
- 9 Neither was man created for woman, but woman for man.
- 10 That is why a wife ought to have a symbol of authority on her head, because of the angels.
- 11 Nevertheless, in the Lord woman is not independent of man nor man of woman;
- 12 for as woman was made from man, so man is now born of woman. And all things are from God.



1 PETER 3:7-12

Observation Worksheet

- 7 Likewise, husbands, live with your wives in an understanding way, showing honor to the woman as the weaker vessel, since they are heirs with you of the grace of life, so that your prayers may not be hindered.
- 8 Finally, all of you, have unity of mind, sympathy, brotherly love, a tender heart, and a humble mind.
- 9 Do not repay evil for evil or reviling for reviling, but on the contrary, bless, for to this you were called, that you may obtain a blessing.
- 10 For

“Whoever desires to love life

and see good days,

let him keep his tongue from evil

and his lips from speaking deceit;

11 let him turn away from evil and do good;

let him seek peace and pursue it.

12 “For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous,

and his ears are open to their prayer.

But the face of the Lord is against those who do evil.”



HOW TO DO A CHAPTER STUDY ~ Let's Get Started!

To learn more about doing a chapter study and other inductive Bible study skills, we encourage you to keep on hand a copy of *The New How to Study Your Bible*. If you don't yet have a copy, you can order one by visiting www.precept.org or calling 800-763-8280.

A **chapter study** helps you to focus in on the details in the chapter to better understand what the author is saying. Each of the skills is used to bring important points to light.

- **Look for the 5 Ws and H**

Read the text asking the 5 Ws and H—*Who, What, When, Where, Why, How*. For example, when studying John 1, read the text asking questions like:

Who is this about?

When?

Where was the Word?

Who was the Word?

What did the Word do?

Don't expect every verse or chapter to answer all the 5 Ws and H about a particular subject or person, but you should read with a questioning mind-set.

Marking key words and phrases and making lists help you to answer the 5 Ws and H.

- **Mark key words and phrases**

Key words are repeated words within a text which are vital to its meaning.

Mark in a distinctive way each key word or phrase in the chapter along with its pronouns and synonyms. Use colors and/or symbols.

Example: "Word" is a repeated word that is **key** to understanding John 1.

- **Lists**

The next step is to list what the chapter says about each of the key words. Look at each place you marked a key word, and list what the text says.

A **list** is a compilation of the facts given about a particular word or person. It gives the 5 Ws and H (who, what, when, where, why, how) about that word or person. Use words from the text.

A list about the **Word** from John 1 begins this way:

was in the beginning, v. 1

was with God, v. 1

was God, v. 1

was in the beginning with God, v. 2



- **Mark and evaluate:**

Contrasts—point out differences. To mark a contrast, put a symbol in the margin by the verse(s), such as *N*.

John 1:17: “For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.”

“But,” “however,” or “nevertheless” might indicate a contrast.

John 4:2: “...Jesus himself did not baptize, but only his disciples....”

Comparisons—point out similarities. To mark a comparison, put a symbol in the margin by the verse(s), such as *=*.

John 10:9: “I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved....”

Sometimes “like” or “as” indicate a comparison.

John 3:14-15: “And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.”

Terms of Conclusion—show that a conclusion or summary is being made. These help us understand “why.”

Look for the words signifying a conclusion or result such as “therefore,” “for this reason,” and “finally.”

John 12:50: “And I know that his commandment is eternal life. What I say, **therefore**, I say as the Father has told me.”

Expressions of Time—give timing, sequence of events, or progression.

Look for words such as “then,” “after,” “when,” “until,” “the day of....”

John 1:2: “He was in the beginning with God.”

- **Identify subjects or themes**

Identify main subjects, events, or points of a chapter by observing it paragraph by paragraph. Paragraphs can be shown with boldface type for the first verse number of a paragraph, by a paragraph symbol, or by an indention at the beginning of a paragraph.

Read each paragraph, and in the margin list the event, subject, or main point of the paragraph.

John 1:6-8

6 There was a man sent from God, whose name was John.

John bore witness about the Light

7 He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him.

8 He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light.