

**A MARRAGE WITHOUT REGRETS**

**PROGRAM 7 (#910137)**

**WEEK 2 (910330)**

**©2010 PRECEPT MINISTRIES INTERNATIONAL**



## ***PRECEPTS FOR LIFE***

**a Production of**

**Precept Ministries International**

**P.O. Box 182218, Chattanooga, TN 37422-7218**

**1-888-734-7707/ [www.preceptsforlife.com](http://www.preceptsforlife.com)**

The following is an actual transcript of the PRECEPTS FOR LIFE Broadcast. For the purpose of filling transcript requests quickly, they have received only light editing. If you have questions concerning the material covered in this broadcast, Kay has published a number of books explaining the Scripture in depth. These books may be ordered by contacting the telephone number or address printed above.

**SERIES: A Marriage Without Regrets**

**TITLE: Program 7 – Essential Factors For A Firm Marital Foundation**

**TUESDAY**

**OPEN**

Listen, no matter how angry you get, no matter how frustrated you become, Beloved, don't say the "D" word. Don't talk about divorce. Don't talk about separation. Don't let it be in your vocabulary. Why? Because marriage is permanent. Jesus says this, in Matthew, chapter 19. He says that, "God made a man to stay with his wife. He did not intend for them to ever divorce."

**PART ONE**

What I want to do today is I want to talk to you about those essential factors, those foundational principles or precepts that you need to understand if you're going to have a marriage without regrets. And as I give them to you I want you to know that even as we go on and on and on in this series, as we talk about sex, as we talk about communication, as we talk about family, as we talk about the home, what you're going to see is, it all goes back to this solid foundation. And that's so essential to have a solid foundation if you

## **A MARRAGE WITHOUT REGRETS**

**PROGRAM 7 (#910137)**

**WEEK 2 (910330)**

**©2010 PRECEPT MINISTRIES INTERNATIONAL**



want your building to stand and not crumble. And surely you want to have a marriage without regrets. Surely you want to have the best marriage that you can possibly have. So what do I want you to do? I want you to open your Bibles to Genesis, chapter 2. And if you don't have a Bible, that's all right, you just listen. But you just might want to know, when you listen to me, what you need is you need a Bible. In Genesis, chapter 2, remember that's the detailed picture of the creation of man and woman. God has created man. Adam has named the animals. God says there wasn't found among them, a helper suitable for Adam. And so He caused a deep sleep to come upon Adam. And when Adam was in that deep sleep, He opened up his side. He took out a rib and from that rib He fashioned a woman. And then God brought the woman to the man. That's very significant isn't it? And that's maybe what you ought to be praying if you're listening and you're single. You ought to praying, "God if You want me to married, You're God, You fashion the woman that You want me to have. You fashion the man that You want me to have. And God You bring us together. I don't have to hunt and I don't have search. You bring us together." And when He brings you together if you're thinking about marriage, these are the essentials that you want to see. And they're all wrapped up in Genesis, chapter 2, verse 22, to the end of the chapter. It says, "And the Lord God fashioned into a woman the rib which He had taken from the man. And He brought her to the man and the man said, 'This is bone of my bone and flesh of my flesh and she shall be called woman because she was taken out of man.' For this cause a man shall leave his father and mother and cleave to his wife and they shall become one flesh. And the man and the wife were both naked and they were not ashamed." You say, "They must have been very young." Yes, I'm sure they were very young. But they still were not ashamed. Now what are the foundational principles that you and I are going to find in here? What are the essentials for laying a solid foundation? Well the first one is found in the fact that God brings the woman to the man and he says, "This is bone of my

**A MARRAGE WITHOUT REGRETS**

**PROGRAM 7 (#910137)**

**WEEK 2 (910330)**

**©2010 PRECEPT MINISTRIES INTERNATIONAL**



bone and flesh of my flesh.” The first essential factor that you need for a solid marriage, Precious One, is to understand that there’s a stewardship involved in marriage. And listen, the stewardship really falls on the shoulders, on those broad shoulders of the man, because God gives the woman to the man. And the Bible says that it is, “required of stewards that they be found faithful.” In other words, you and I are given spiritual gifts and we are accountable for using those spiritual gifts. “Every good and perfect gift comes down from the Father above in whom there is no variableness, nor shadow of turning.” And so God is saying, everything that you and I have is a gift of God. And because it’s a gift from God, then we’re accountable for the way that we handled that gift. So the first essential factor for a solid foundation for a marriage that won’t crumble, is for the man, especially, to realize that because he’s the initiator, because he is the aggressor, and because the woman is the responder, and because the man was created before the woman, then there is a stewardship there. And with that stewardship there goes an accountability. So someday as a man, “every man is going to stand before God, either as a Christian, at the Judgment Seat of Christ or at the Great White Throne Judgment, just before he’s cast into the Lake of Fire, each one will be judged by their deeds. Now those standing at the judgment seat of Christ are judged by their deeds for the purpose of rewards, because God rewards faithfulness.” Those that are standing at the Great White Throne Judgment are standing there and there’s going to be degrees of punishment, all punishment, but degrees of punishment. But all of it is going to be based on deeds because God is fair and God is equitable. So know this, that if God gives you a wife, you have a stewardship over that wife. The second essential factor of marriage is identification. And in identification, this is what He says. He says, “This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh.” In other words, here is a total identification of the two coming together to be a husband and wife. Let me take you to Ephesians, chapter 5. Now Ephesians, chapter 5 is a good passage for you to

## **A MARRAGE WITHOUT REGRETS**

**PROGRAM 7 (#910137)**

**WEEK 2 (910330)**

**©2010 PRECEPT MINISTRIES INTERNATIONAL**



read and a good passage for you to study, and a good passage for you to mark. And we'll tell you about doing that a little bit later. But when you go to Ephesians, chapter 5, in verse 22, all the way through verse 33, you have God talking to the wives and talking to the husband. And now when Adam says, "This is bone of my bone and flesh of my flesh," I want you to see that now he is totally identified with her. In other words, look at the wife, you'll see the husband. Look at the husband, you'll see the wife. There's a total identification. And we need to remember that, because what marriage does is it takes two who are separate and it makes them one. All right, so you see this identification. And in verse 28 of Ephesians, chapter 5, it says, "So husbands ought also to love their own wives as their own bodies." In other words, here is this identification. In other words, you love your body, you are to love your wife and you are to love your wife the way you love your body. It says, "He who loves his own wife loves himself." There's such identification that whatever you do to the wife or whatever you do to the husband, that husband speaks of you and the wife speaks of you. Now watch what he says. "For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes it and cherishes it just as Christ also does the church." You see, when you and I come to know Jesus Christ, there is a total identification. Christians are called Christians, little Christ is what it means. In other words, we're part of Him now. He goes on to say, "...just as Christ does the church, because we are members of His body." It says, "For this cause a man shall leave his father and mother and shall cleave to his wife and the two shall become one flesh." Now what is he quoting? Well, he's quoting what I just read to you out of Genesis. He goes back to the foundation. He goes back to the beginning. The third thing that you see about marriage, and this is a little bit of a hard one. So hang in there with me, don't flip that dial. Don't you dare touch that dial because I'm promising you that if you will listen to this and if you will think on these things and meditate on them. Don't buy them because I'm saying them, Precious One. Don't just say, "Oh, you know, she

says it. She's got to be right." No. That's not necessarily true. It has to agree with the Word of God. But if it does agree with the Word of God, then, Precious One, you need to buy it because that is truth. So this is the third essential factor or the essential precept for a solid foundation of marriage and that's headship. Have you got it? Headship. Now let me ask you a question. Have you ever seen a two headed animal? I remember when I was a young girl, I became a nurse. But my mother worked for a doctor and she'd bring home all these medical books and I was just fascinated by going through these medical books and looking especially at these pictures. And you know, it showed Siamese twins and everything and you just grieved because here they are joined in some way and cannot be separate. And yet, I remember seeing a story about Siamese twins that have one body, joined from here to here, and how they were so identified that they took care of one another. But then I saw in the book a picture of a cow with two heads. I want to tell you something. It was grotesque. What He's saying here is: there is to be a headship between the man and the woman. And it goes on to say, "She shall be called woman because she was taken out of man." You say, "Now wait a minute. Don't tell me that you've read headship into that passage?" You're right. I couldn't get it out of Genesis, chapter 2, verse 23, but what the Scripture does is the Scripture is a progressive revelation. Watch. It starts here. You know, it starts here in Genesis. And more and more and more what happens is it opens up and you learn more and more and more on a subject. So it's a progressive revelation. And so what we need to do is we need to go to 1 Corinthians, chapter 11. And when we go to 1 Corinthians, chapter 11, we find God explaining this passage to us. If you want to write it down, it's 1 Corinthians, chapter 11, verse 3 and then verses 7 through 9. And in verse 3, this is what he says, he says, "I want you to understand that Christ is the head of every man and the man is the head of the woman and God is the head of Christ." So here He says it. Who's the head of Christ? It's God. Who's the head of the man? It's Christ. Who is the head of the

woman? It's the man. Then we drop down to verse 7 and it says, "A man ought to have his head covered..." They're debating on you know whether women should wear head coverings in those days, or not, "...since he is the image and glory of God, but the woman is the glory of a man."

## **PART TWO**

The fourth thing that I want you to see is this: that marriage is permanent. Marriage is a matter of stewardship. The man is going to be held accountable for the way he treats the wife, for the way that he cares for the wife, for the way that he nourishes her, for the way that he watches over her, for her well being. The man's going to be held accountable. The second thing that we saw is that marriage is identification. There is to be: what affects you affects me, what affects me affects you. There's an identification: bone of bone and flesh of flesh. There's a headship. Then after the headship, what you see is you see that marriage is permanent. In other words there's one man for one woman for all of time. There is in God's economy, if God could have it His way and someday He will. But He's given you a free will. But if you would have it God's way, then you would have permanence in marriage. That means that once you get married, you would never be looking at another woman. You know, my second son Mark, when he started dating Leslie, and she is just absolutely awesome. And her friends are always saying, "Gosh you have such a neat marriage." But you see when my son talked to Leslie about marriage, the thing he said to her, he says, "I want you to know that this is forever. This is forever. This is an absolute, total commitment. This is forever. This is until death do us part." Now unfortunately, Mark had a poor example in me and I'm so sorry, I'm so sorry, because I didn't look at marriage as permanent. And the minute that it started being so difficult that I thought I couldn't take anymore, and I want you to know, I could have taken a lot more, because I was not abused or anything. I just had a husband that was depressed and that was bipolar.

And I didn't understand it and he didn't understand it and we didn't know what to do about it. But I just became unhappy. And so I walked away. I made the mistake. I mentioned the "D" word, divorce. And that should never be part of your vocabulary. Listen, no matter how angry you get, no matter how frustrated you become, Beloved, don't say the "D" word. Don't talk about divorce. Don't talk about separation. Don't let it be in your vocabulary. Why? Because marriage is permanent. Jesus says this, in Matthew, chapter 19. He says that, "God made a man to stay with his wife. He did not intend for them to ever divorce. This is not what is pleasing to Him." And even in Romans, chapter 7, where he's teaching about the Law, he talks about only when death comes is there a separation and a freedom to remarry. Now there are other reasons and we'll go into those when we study the subject of divorce, but don't think that. Just think of marriage as a permanent relationship. And you know if there's a stewardship, if there's an identification, if there's a headship that's like the headship of Jesus Christ, listen, who wants another husband, who wants another wife? Well the fifth thing I want you to see is, he says in verse 24. "And for this cause a man shall leave his father and his mother and shall cleave to his wife and they shall become one flesh." And what you see as you look at this is you see, okay, they are coming together. He is to leave and he is to cleave. You have a union, a union between the husband and the wife that brings a oneness. Now that oneness is epitomized in the sexual relationship. He says, "For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother...", So there's a departure, "and cleave to his wife." And that word cleave means "to glue together". It means "to bond together". It means "to make to be one". As a matter of fact, inherent, this word is the pursuit, pursuing hard after something. So, yes, in the physical relationship, you come together and there is a physical union. There's a physical oneness, but it is not just a physical oneness that you want. You want a oneness of mind, a oneness of heart, a oneness of soul, a oneness of purpose. You want to move together as one. You know, after a

## **A MARRAGE WITHOUT REGRETS**

**PROGRAM 7 (#910137)**

**WEEK 2 (910330)**

**©2010 PRECEPT MINISTRIES INTERNATIONAL**



couple a lives together for a long, long time they can anticipate one another. You say, “That must be so very ho-hum.” I want to tell you something. If you’re young it sounds ho-hum. But as you mature it’s not ho-hum. It is delightfully comfortable. It is wonderfully secure. There’s a security in that as you become more and more one. And we’re going to see how that oneness comes. But if you just think of yourself never as separate. You know I try to remember not to say, “my children”. I try to say “our children”. Not my house, our house, because I want to keep that oneness. I want that identification with my husband. I want that bonding together. And I need to do everything that I can to pursue that oneness, to pursue that oneness. That’s why you include one another. That’s why you talk with one another. And then that brings me to the sixth essential factor of a foundation of a marriage that is going to stand no matter what. And that sixth factor is found in verse 25. And it says, “And the man and his wife were both naked and they were not ashamed.” And what you see is this. There was a total openness with one another. There was total transparency. There was no hiding at all. It’s just standing there, just stark naked, as my grandson would say, buck naked and there’s no covering. You look at one another. You see each other for what is really, really there. And you know what? It’s all right because you know that it’s a permanent marriage relationship. It’s all right because you know that there is total identification. It’s all right. Why? It’s all right because you know that there is a stewardship for that one. In Ephesians it says that, “A man will nourish and cherish his wife.” To nourish her and cherish her means that you look at her with her spots, with her blemishes and you say, “Hey, I’m going to help you. I’m going to help you. Under my care, under my love, in our relationship, you’re not going to wither and die. You’re going to blossom. You’re going to come into full bloom.” So what does that take? Well, it takes learning to communicate. It takes learning to talk to one another. And that’s what you see is, you see this openness in marriage. Now all of this in the next chapter is going to close up. All of this



**A MARRAGE WITHOUT REGRETS**

**PROGRAM 7 (#910137)**

**WEEK 2 (910330)**

**©2010 PRECEPT MINISTRIES INTERNATIONAL**



is going to come, in a sense, under attack. And what you and I are going to do is we're going to learn how to handle it when it comes under attack. But just for now, just stop and get these down and understand that these are the essentials: That there is a stewardship in marriage, that the husband is accountable for his wife before God. That there is an identification, what touches you touches me. Together, we're in this together. The third thing that you need to see is you need to see that there is a headship. Only one head, no two headed animals. And then the fourth thing you need to see is, hey this is permanent. No "D" words, no divorce, no separation. And it is a union that is making you one. And it is to be an open union. That's a marriage without regrets.