

Not So Modern Family

“What is Normal?”

1 Corinthians 7:25-28

08.10.14

“Normal” Marriage defined: Two people who love _____
and are struggling to love _____.

1. Normal is that marriage would be full of _____.
1 Corinthians 7:25-28

2. Normal is a ton of _____, not an _____ high.
1 Corinthians 13:4-7

3. Normal is for husbands and wives to _____ to _____.
Ephesians 5:15-21

- Husbands, submit to God by _____ loving your wife!
- Wives, submit to God by _____ your husband!
Ephesians 5:33

4. Normal is struggling to communicate _____.
1 Peter 3:7

The Path of the “Normal” Marriage:

FURTHER STUDY:

Note: This study guide is designed to be helpful for all of us regardless of our marital status. For those who are not married, it could be helpful in preparing for a possible future marriage or providing insights for growing relationships with family.

1. Everyone walks into marriage and other relationships with a number of expectations. Identifying these expectations is a good exercise for all of us. Pick 3 or 4 categories below and write down 1 or 2 expectations you have for it in your relationship.

Communication	Time Together	Social Life	Work
Other Friends	Spiritual Growth	Money	Health
Household Chores	Conflict	Parenting	Family

- ⇒ Now take a moment and write down what you think your spouse or friend would write as their expectations.
- ⇒ The tricky part about sharing these expectations is not what we are sharing, but how we are sharing it.
- ⇒ How can 1Corinthians 13:4-7 and Philippians 2:1-5 help guide your conversation?

2. Read Ephesians 5:25-33 and Philippians 2:5-11 and take some notes on how we can “imitate” God’s love and Christ’s attitude.

- ⇒ What things keep people today from truly loving others in this extreme way?

3. Love is a choice and it cannot be built upon emotion. At the same time, God gave us the capacity to experience a wide range of feelings. Read the following passages and note what feelings can be a result of a loving marriage.

- ⇒ Proverbs 5:15-19 Song of Songs 4:9-10

- ⇒ Can you think of any dangers associated with making these kinds of feelings the ultimate goal of a marriage?

4. Is there anything that needs to be done or anything that you need to continue to do for your relationship to move toward a more mature love?