

The Vow

The Vow of Partnership

TALK IT OVER

Key Scripture

and said, 'Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.' So they are no longer two but one flesh. What therefore God has joined together, let not man separate."

Matthew 19:5-6

Key Points

- I promise our marriage will be about "we" and not "me."

Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh.

Genesis 2:24

- A contract is based on mutual distrust. A covenant is based on mutual commitment.
- A covenant partnership consists of love, respect, and mutual submission.

Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ. Wives, submit yourselves to your own husbands as you do to the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife as Christ is head of the church, his body, of which he is the Savior. Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit to their husbands in everything. Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her ... Ephesians 5:21-25

Start talking. Find a conversation starter for your group.

- If you're in a relationship, how are you opposites, and how are you similar?

Start thinking. Ask a question to get your group thinking.

- Read Matthew 19:5-6. Why do you think God makes marriage such a big deal? What purposes does it serve?
- Pastor Danny said, "Marriage is a covenant, not a contract." How would you describe the differences between the two?

Start sharing. Choose a question to create openness.

- Have you seen the concept of submission abused? How have you seen it work in a God-honoring way?
- Pastor Danny said, "Marriage isn't dividing everything in half. It's giving everything you've got." Which are you more prone to do in relationships? How?
- What was the most challenging portion of Pastor Danny's message? What will you do about it?
- Read Ephesians 5:22-33. How could this affect the way a husband and wife relate? Talk about some specific examples of arguments, decisions, responsibilities, etc.

Pray:

Heavenly Father, help us to always pursue Godly relationships about "we" and not "me." Holy Spirit, give us the strength to love the way You love us. Jesus, You sacrificed Your life for us. Teach us to lay down our lives for each other and to have you at the center of it all. Amen!

Start doing. Commit to a step and live it out this week.

- Write down three ways you could be more of a servant in your most important relationships.
- Learn to pursue a godly marriage with *The Vow Bible Plan*: <https://www.bible.com/reading-plans/4265-the-vow>
- If you're married, have a conversation about your ideals for partnership.