

A group of people are gathered around a table, holding hands in a circle. The scene is dimly lit, with a bright light source from the left creating a strong glow. On the table in the foreground, there are several books, two white mugs, and some papers. The overall atmosphere is one of community and shared purpose.

# ***RELATIONSHIPS***

thriving in God and caring for one another

# MARRIAGE

- ***God's Design for Marriage***
- ***Marriage Oneness is Paramount or Most Important***
- ***Satan Desires to Divide our Oneness***
- ***Steps toward Strengthening Oneness***

*Marriage and the Mystery of the Gospel - Ray Ortlund*

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RELATIONSHIPS | MARRIAGE

## *God's Design for Marriage*

**Genesis 1:1-3:** In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. <sup>2</sup> The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters. <sup>3</sup> And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light.

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RELATIONSHIPS | MARRIAGE

## *God's Design for Marriage*

**Genesis 1:26-27:** 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." <sup>27</sup> So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.

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RELATIONSHIPS | MARRIAGE

## *God's Design for Marriage*

**Genesis 1:28-29, 31:** 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." <sup>29</sup> 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...  
<sup>31</sup> 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.

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RELATIONSHIPS | MARRIAGE

# *God's Design for Marriage*

*Man and woman are a part of God's creation story*

**Genesis 2:15-17:** The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it.  
<sup>16</sup> And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, "You may surely eat of every tree of the garden, <sup>17</sup> 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."  
<sup>18</sup> Then the Lord God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper fit for him."  
But for Adam there was not found a helper fit for him...

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RELATIONSHIPS | MARRIAGE

# *God's Design for Marriage*

*Man and woman are a part of God's creation story*

**1 Corinthians 11:11:** Nevertheless, in the Lord woman is not independent of man nor man of woman;

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RELATIONSHIPS | MARRIAGE

## *Marriage Oneness is Paramount or Most Important*

**Genesis 2:21-25:** 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. <sup>22</sup> And the rib that the Lord God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. <sup>23</sup> 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." <sup>24</sup> Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become **one flesh**. <sup>25</sup> And the man and his wife were both naked and were not ashamed.

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RELATIONSHIPS | MARRIAGE



# ***Marriage Oneness is Paramount or Most Important***

**Deuteronomy 6:4:** "Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one.

**John 17:22:** The glory that you have given me I have given to them, that they may be one even as we are **one,**

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RELATIONSHIPS | MARRIAGE

## *Satan Desires to Divide our Oneness*

**Genesis 3:1-6:** Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the Lord God had made. <sup>2</sup> And the woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, <sup>3</sup> but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die.'" <sup>4</sup> But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not surely die. <sup>5</sup> For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."

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RELATIONSHIPS | MARRIAGE

## ***Satan Desires to Divide our Oneness***

**Genesis 3:1-6:** <sup>6</sup> So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her *husband who was with her*, and he ate.

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RELATIONSHIPS | MARRIAGE

## *Satan Desires to Divide our Oneness*

**Genesis 3:17:** And to Adam he said, "Because you have listened to the voice of your wife and have eaten of the tree of which I commanded you, 'You shall not eat of it,' cursed is the ground because of you; in pain you shall eat of it all the days of your life;

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RELATIONSHIPS | MARRIAGE

# *Satan Desires to Divide our Oneness*

## *Manhood Marred: Overcoming Passivity*

*Lawrence Locklin*

There are at least six ways men can become passive, and I have experienced all six.

1. Laziness
2. Busy-ness
3. Entertainment
4. Aimlessness
5. Unbelief
6. Fear

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RELATIONSHIPS | MARRIAGE

## *Satan Desires to Divide our Oneness*

**Genesis 3:7-13:** Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked. And they **sewed fig leaves** together and made themselves loincloths.  
<sup>8</sup> And they heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden. <sup>9</sup> But the Lord God called to the man and said to him, "Where are **you**?"

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RELATIONSHIPS | MARRIAGE

## *Satan Desires to Divide our Oneness*

**Genesis 3:7-13:** <sup>10</sup> And he said, "I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked, and I hid myself." <sup>11</sup> He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten of the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?" <sup>12</sup> The man said, "**The woman whom you gave to be with me**, she gave me fruit of the tree, and I ate." <sup>13</sup> Then the Lord God said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate."

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RELATIONSHIPS | MARRIAGE

# *Steps toward Strengthening Oneness*

- Recognize God's design for marriage
- Thrive in your roles of leader and helper which are equal
- Acknowledge the blessing of your spouse
- Recognize your sin tendencies in your marriage
- Choose confession and repentance over shame and blame
- Model the love of God in your oneness
- "We choose our way into this mess, we can't choose our way out" - Ray Ortlund. We need Jesus.

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RELATIONSHIPS | MARRIAGE



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# ***RELATIONSHIPS***

thriving in God and caring for one another