

Marriage & Family: a little different than expected?

The origin idea of god

"... let us make human, an image of us that is similar to us" Genesis 1

God created them very different

First a man

but it is not good that he is alone
and out of him he created a woman

for community to each others and to god himself

God lives his own community as father son and spirit.
He loves community with us.
that is the goal, also of marriage and discipleship

nothing about marriage or a ceremony

If we take a closer look at the creation (the original idea of god), then we also see the following:
There is nothing here about marriage
or a ceremony
or rules about sex and other rules...

Only that they should exercise authority and multiply themselves
Hopefully without shame, very open in the sexuality and with a lot of fun. of corse...
- Of course they had fun, because it was all very good

Biblical model - a most jewish model under the law

- Pure patriarchy (men only among themselves)
- The men determined the family
- men made the laws
men were the religious leaders
- Leadership & discipleship: only men
 - Pharisees and Sadducees never had women as disciples
 - Women were not allowed to teach.
 - They were allowed to serve in practice, but there is nothing more

The writers of the New Testament have taken from jewish culture the only one man- one woman model. but even at their time there was polygamy and that's up to today in a lot cultures.
bye the way: god also had nothing against polygamy under the law (for example salomon)
We see, even in marriage different models grow up through different cultures. and until today changes coming. therefore we cannot use verses out of the (context) jewish law as example or truth for today/daily life.

Structural change & progress / Just as Jesus did it - until today

- Equivalence: All in the Kingdom
- The woman belongs to the man and vice versa
- The man should love, as Christ love the church
- They have mutual authority over the body
- Leadership & Discipleship is for All in the Kingdom
- Jesus had women in discipleship
- Later in the letters, we see Junia as an apostle who taught
- The greatest is all servant & this also applies to men

we got the meaning/thinkings of christ trough renewal of his spirit.

Therefore, according to the values of the kingdom, we should decide how to live.

we decide also in marriage what modell we use today. and today, in my opinion, a lot has become better.

the kingdom of god fills the whole earth.

that is why it is not finished and it will always be better.

Love - How love for God and love for each other changes everything

John 13:34

A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love (serve) one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another. By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another.

How do we deal with each other in relationships?

Col 3

bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony.

- Love shows in practice, not in words alone
- It requires Passion for the other and is unconditional
- Sometimes relationship means to endure each other

How do we deal with each other in relationships?

Eph 4

Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.

- Forgiveness is needed because as Christians, sometimes we are (or do) stupid
- With the partner / The children / with ourselves / other
- We have no right not to forgive (Remember: Insight pain/wounds ist no sin, it needs healing)

How do we deal with each other in relationships?

Eph. 5:21

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 the 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 to make her holy, cleansing² her by the washing with water through the word, and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless.

In this same way, husbands ought to love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself.

After all, no one ever hated their own body, but they feed and care for their body, just as Christ does the church—

for we are members of his body.

“For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh.”³

This is a profound mystery—but I am talking about Christ and the church.

However, each one of you also must love his wife as he loves himself, and the wife must respect her husband.

How do we deal with each other in relationships?***Eph. 4: 2***

Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love.

Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.

There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called;

one Lord, one faith, one baptism;

one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

How do we deal with each other in relationships?

Communication - the key to a healthy relationship

Talk about everything! feelings / thinkings / job / money / sex / education / and much more

Love means to communicate - Everyone communicates differently - we must learn this

Communication can take place

- Nonverbal: In gestures and expressions
- Emotional: From heart to heart, even without words
- Physical: hugs, kisses, sex (Does he know what you like? tell and show him)

1 - Differences: personal tasks - discussing at home

- In which areas are we equal to each other?
- In which areas are we different?

2 - Expectations (take place in the other's head) personal tasks - discussing at home

- tell her / him the expectations that you think your partner has today.
- Reflected on each other and complete these, what expectations you really have

3 - This is what I like about you

- tell him/her that frequently /Loving words build and you have to say and hear them

4 - Interests (common or lonely)

talk both about common interests that you has:

- Talk about how you could shape them together

Talk about interests that you do not have in common:

- How could you promote the other in it?

Should one reduce interests, because it puts a strain on the relationship?

5 - My family of origin

How was your interaction? What rituals did you have as a family? Which rules were important?

- Talk about what was good and you would like to continue?
- And what you do not want from it?
 - Can you talk about it without pain and bitterness?
- Do you agree in the views?
 - or is there a big gap in these views?

6 - Dealing with children: time and tasks

- How much time do you spend per day with your children?
- What mission do you see in your children?
- How much time do they spend besides work in other activities? (church organisation too)
 - Nothing is more important than having time for and with the children.
 - first family, then ministry!

7 - Please talk about the most important rules that you have set for your children

- Are both parents parts in it?
 - If not, why not?
- If you do not have any rules yet then it is time to define such.
 - Talk to other parents, how they did it and how it worked in practice (or not)

Educational rules: educate children

children need some kind of rules and borders

- Hardly any child in the world accepts a "no" from parents
- The most important thing is to stay calm at this moment
 - How does mom / dad react when i provoked them?
 - From the reaction of the parents, the child forms his own frustration tolerance
 - which it will develop in the course of life

Children want to learn responsibility

- The task of the parents is to find an age and personality rights task for their child.
 - In addition, the child must learn that he has to take responsibility for his actions
 - and deal with the consequences
- Children need to learn to deal with frustration and resistance, with negative feelings such as grief, anger and disappointment.
 - To eliminate these feelings of the child directly (may the child is worshiped like a star) is not a helpful way for the child

Children need a clear structure

- For their intention, children try all the possibilities that come to their mind
 - Not because of bad thinkings
 - but because they are just children, want to test their limits.
- If the parental rules are not clear formulated or confusing for them
 - the child will sooner or later take advantage of it
 - Parents should make sure that their rules and regulations have a structure
 - that is understandable to the child, that it makes sense

Children need consistent parents

- The most common reason why children break rules is the lack of consistency of parents and their disagreement.
 - Mama says this rule and child go to daddy and ask: But daddy say something others
- The child must learn to handle the consequences, must accept them
 - At some point, it will have to obey laws that apply to all people
 - How a person has adapt social structures, the child has to adapt family structures.

10 rules that can help

- Stay loving: "We like you, even if we criticize you"
- show interest: "If you want, you can ask me for advice"
- Explain consistently: "I convince you without patronizing you"
- have trust: "Just try it alone"
- Clear role distribution: "You are my child and not my buddy"
- money can not buy happiness: "I'll take care of you instead of buying you much"
- Learn and play: "You can learn a lot, but you should have time to play"
- quality not quantity: "I take time for you - no matter what happens"
- Decisions: "Yes or no? I do not depend on my feelings"
- Enough body contact: "You can decide when you want to cuddle"