

SCRIPTURE COMPANIONS:

MARRIED COUPLES IN THE BIBLE

Week One: August 1-6, 2022

Theme: Foremost

Adam and Eve, Mary and Joseph

Opening Prayer:

Rom 12:9-10

"Let love be without any pretense. Avoid what is evil; stick to what is good. In brotherly love let your feelings of deep affection for one another come to expression and regard others as more important than yourself."

Person 1:

Lord and Father, Thank You that you promise us that where two or three are gathered you are in the midst. Lord, we welcome You amongst us today and celebrate the gift of life that you have lavished upon each of us. We ask that You would open our ears so that we may hear your voice.

Person 2:

Open our minds so that we may receive your eternal wisdom. Open our spirits so that we may know Your leading and guidance. And open our hearts so that we may receive Your wonderful love. We ask this in the glorious name of Jesus. Amen.

Gospel:

Gen 1:27-28

So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them. 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.

Discussion Questions:

Adam and Eve were the original married couple. Made in God's image. As the story goes, Eve succumbed to temptation, was tricked by Satan and disobeyed God's only rule by eating from the tree of knowledge – then feeding the fruit to her husband. Their spirits died at that very moment (Gen 2:17) and their physical bodies began the slow process of decay that would mar God's beautiful creation and end in physical death.

Mary and Joseph (ultimately through Jesus) were sent to facilitate a plan of redemption for the actions of Adam & Eve; to save mankind. Their marriage was holy and their family life is a wonderful example for all of us called to marriage and family life. Their trust in God never waned.

1. Can you think of areas of distrust in your relationship with each other? Have you been guilty of betraying your mate's trust? What can you do to increase your trust in each other?
2. Why do you think Adam didn't stop Eve? Could he have stopped her? How?
3. If Adam and Eve put God first in their relationship, do you think they could have avoided the pit fall? Are you successfully putting God first in your marriage and family life? What benefits do you glean from this practice?
4. Are you helping others build a stronger trust in you by developing a stronger commitment to the will of God? How can you increase that commitment to do God's will?

For this week:

Pray for Married Couples this week. Include them in your daily intensions. You may pick specific couples or just married couples in general.

Closing Prayer:

John 17:20-23

Jesus raised his eyes to heaven and said: "Holy Father, I pray not only for these, but also for those who will believe in me through their word, so that they may all be one, as you, Father, are in me and I in you, that they also may be in us, that the world may believe that you sent me. And I have given them the glory you gave me, so that they may be one, as we are one, I in them and you in me, that they may be brought to perfection as one, that the world may know that you sent me, and that you loved them even as you loved me."