

**ALL CHRISTIANS' FELLOWSHIP INTERNATIONAL**  
**INTERACTIVE SUNDAY SCHOOL OUTLINE**

TOPIC: **Marriage Institution (I)**  
TEXT: ***Proverbs 31:10-31***  
M. VERSE: ***Proverbs 31:30***

**Study the followings**

**FRIENDSHIP:** - A friend is a person, not a relation, whom one knows and likes well. The act of showing or expressing kindness is called "***Friendliness***". There are different levels of friendship - Proverbs 18:24. It is our intention to explain the following to explain the following types of friends:

Close friends: - These people have a thing seriously in common. For friends of opposite sex, this could eventually lead to (ii).

Friends in courtship:- To court is to try to win the affection of the person in question with a view to marriage. This often leads to (iii).

Friends engaged:- To engage means to promise undertake; to bind oneself; to guarantee, an undertaking or promise, especially one that is formal or made in writing. At this stage it is an **open secret**. This person thus moves to (iv).

Marriage: - Union of man and a woman as husband and wife.

**LOVE IN FRIENDSHIP:** - (Proverbs 18:24). Among brethren, some persons are better friends to one another. The story of Jonathan and David is an example of friendship here and even brethren of opposite sex. Some brethren sometimes form ***Clique/Circle*** (*i. e. groups of person united by common interests*), this people support each other and shut out others from the group.

**ENGAGEMENT AND COURTSHIP:** - An engagement is the honourable announcement to the community that the couple plans to marry soon. Proposal is not engagement; relationship is not engagement; assumptions aren't it either. It is not a perhaps affair, it is real, usually public and it involves the parents. It is usual, normal and natural that engaged couples will be together and will exchange views of marriage, children, birth control, likes, ambition, e. t. c (*however they are yet unmarried*).

**Question**

***Would you support the formation of Clique\Circle within the Church? Give biblical explanation. Go through the following scriptures: I Sam. 18:3-4; 19:4; 20:11, 15-16. Do you support verse 11 of chapter 20 of I Samuel for brethren of opposite sex? Give reasons for your decision. Could Mary and Martha be said to be friends to Jesus (Luke 10:38-40; John 11:5 Mark 14:33)? Discuss the following scriptures in relation to other people's friendship (II Thess.3:11; I Tim.5:13; I Peter 4:15). What part does self control play during and after the Engagement and Courtship?***

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TOPIC:       **Marriage Institution (II)**  
TEXT:        ***Proverbs 31:10-31***  
M. VERSE:   ***Proverbs 31:30***

**Study the followings**

**REASONS FOR MARRIAGE: -**

Obedience - Genesis 1:28.  
Fellowship - Genesis 2:18 (what would you say about I Corinthians 7:32).  
Partnership - Ecclesiastes 4:9-11; Genesis 2:24.  
Reproduction - Genesis 1:28; 9:1.

**WHOM TO MARRY: -** Christians should only marry Christians - II Corinthians 6:14-17.

**HOW TO KNOW WHOM TO MARRY: -**

Matthew 7:7; Proverbs 16:20.  
Explain what you understand by the following: -  
Are you limits of closeness with unbelievers?  
One always marry one of his/her friends  
One has to look for his lost rib - Genesis 2:21-23.  
God has ceased to provide wives for men after the accusation of Adam - Genesis 3:12.  
Searching and praying any one comes first.

**WHEN TO MARRY: -**

(Some suggestions and advice)  
When God guides you into it.  
When you know the other person sufficiently well to know his/her likes and dislikes, good points and hard points, hasty marriages are dangerous.  
No infatuation, wait for love... Godly love - it grows.  
Wait until you are old enough to marry.  
Never marry to reform your partners.  
Wait for the approval of the girl's parent.  
Wait for a measure of financial stability, not wealth but some security - I Timothy 5:8.  
Do not borrow money to do wedding.  
What about attraction by beauty, wealth, position, e. t. c. - Proverbs 3:5-6.

**DIVORCE** - Matthew 19:6-9 - (*This scripture must supersede every imagination and tradition in the Christian life*).

**QUESTION**

***How can I know who to marry? John 14:17-18; 26.***  
***Why does Christians grow in love and not fall in love like unbelievers?***  
***Give reasons for seeking a wife on the basis of Proverbs 18:22.***  
***What lesson is there in II Samuel 13:10-15?***  
Explain what the Scripture says in Matthew 19:6-9.

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TOPIC:       **The Labourer is worthy of His Reward**

TEXT:        ***I Corinthians 9:1-15***

**INTRODUCTION:** Apostles in general were supported by the Church and not by secular labour. Of course, we know that Paul was the Apostle to the gentiles but there were some in Corinth who questioned this Apostleship (I Corinthians 9). In his epistle to the Corinthians, he writes that he and Barnabas has as much right to be supported by them as the other Apostles were. Even though they choose not to be supported by this particular Church (Acts 18), he urges Timothy to encourage the churches in Ephesus to support the ministry and those who labour therein.

**Study the followings**

Divine right of support as ordained by God in both the Old and the New Testament -  
Deuteronomy 25:4; I Corinthians 9:9-14.

The servants of God has a right to receive support when they gave their time in the temple service and if they give themselves continually to prayer and to the Ministry of the word of God feeding flock.

He that ploweth should plow in hope. He that thresheth in hope should be partaker of His hope (vs. 10).

The Minister sows spiritual things (the Word of God), but he reaps carnal things (support from the Church - verse 11).

They were of two classes - (a) those who ministers the Word, (b) those who serves in the altar (i.e. Deacons without secular job).

They which preach the gospel should live of the gospel (verse 14).

Duties of preachers who receive wages.

They must give themselves continually to prayer and to the ministry of the Word (Acts 6:4).

They should feed and protect the flock from worldly influences and possible satanic attacks through ceaseless warning (Acts 20:20-31).

In all things approving oneself as the Minister of God (II Corinthians 6:3-10).

**QUESTION**

***Could the Church fail in its responsibility of supporting her Ministers? Explain.***

***In what ways could a Minister be unworthy of his reward? Explain.***

***What are the possible strategies and the areas by which a Church could provide for her Minister?***