Families In Focus
"A Biblical Overview Of Marriage"

Introduction: 1. The fabric of our society is unraveling.
2. If we are to stop the trend, we must start with the home.
3. Teaching on the home is sound doctrine (Titus 2:1-6).
4. Troubled homes are always the result of one or more parties in the home failing to follow God's pattern (Jer. 10:23; 2 Pet. 1:3; 2 Tim. 3:16-17).
    a. God ordained the home, government, and the church — departure from God's instructions brings sorrow in each institution.
5. This lesson will give a brief overview of what the Bible says about the home. In later lessons, we will deal with these points in more detail.

I. **The Beginning Of The Home**
    A. (Genesis 2:18-25).
        1. The creation was good — but it was not good for man to be alone.
        2. So God created woman and instituted marriage.
    B. The purposes for the institution of marriage.
        1. Companionship (Genesis 2:18).
        2. Propagate the human race (Genesis 1:28).
        3. To prevent fornication (1 Corinthians 7:2; Proverbs 5:18-21).

II. **The Nature Of The Home**
    A. It is to be between male and female (Matthew 19:4-5).
    B. Those involved are to "leave" and "cleave" to one another (Matthew 19:5).
    C. It is to be a life long commitment (Matthew 9:6; Romans 7:1-4).

III. **Those Eligible For Marriage**
    A. It comes as a surprise to some to suggest to them that not everyone has a right to a marriage partner.
    B. Marriage is not an inalienable right — but a God given privilege.
    C. The follow people are authorized to marry with God's approval.
        1. One who has never been married (Hebrews 13:4).
        2. One who has been married, but whose spouse has died (Romans 7:2).
        3. One who has been married, but who has divorced his/her spouse for the cause of fornication (Matthew 19:9).
        4. One who has been married, who has divorced his/her spouse, but who seeks to remarry his/her divorced spouse (1 Corinthians 7:10-11).

Conclusion: 1. Marriage was given for our good — and can produce just that if we will follow God's pattern.