

4th Lecture Notes:



Biblical Foundations of Marriage & Family (Part 02)

Speaker: Rev. Tariq Waris

Date: December 02, 2025

Topic: Summary of the Epistle to the Ephesians & Biblical Models of Marriage

1. The 5 Golden Principles from Ephesians

The Pastor outlined five critical principles regarding marriage based on the Epistle to the Ephesians:

1. **Cosmic Plan:** Marriage is part of God's "Cosmic Plan" (Universal Order) in Christ. (Ephesians 1:10)
2. **Filling of the Spirit:** Instructions regarding marriage are only for believers who are "filled with the Spirit." Nominal Christians cannot fulfill these standards. (Ephesians 5:18)
3. **Love and Submission:** The command is for wives to submit and for husbands to love. (Ephesians 5:21-33)
4. **Headship and Authority:** A husband's headship involves not only seeking his wife's growth but also exercising "**Authority**".
 - **Note:** If a husband and wife cannot agree on a matter, the **final say** belongs to the husband, and the wife should respectfully accept it (provided it is for the family's good).
5. **Principle of Creation:** A wife's submission to her husband is not a result of the Fall (Sin), but is a "**Principle of Creation**." (Genesis 2, 1 Corinthians 11). This means the order remains valid even after becoming a Christian.

2. Life Priorities: The 3 "K's" (God, Family, Ministry)

For a Christian family, the correct order of priorities must be:

1. **God** (Khuda)
2. **Family** (Khandan)
3. **Ministry/Service** (Khidmat)

- **Warning:** Often people (even Pastors) place "Ministry" or "Work" above "Family," which causes children to drift away from God.
- **Lesson:** We must serve God, but not at the cost of sacrificing our family.

3. Spiritual Warfare & Modern Challenges

- **The Smartphone Trap:** The Pastor identified the **Smartphone** as a weapon of the devil that is destroying families.
 - It is eradicating children's **Social Skills**.
 - It is a gateway to immorality and inappropriate content.
- **Solution:** Parents must be strict, keep passcodes, and encourage children towards physical sports and reading books instead of screens.

4. Three Biblical Models of Marriage (New Testament)

We find three types of couples in the New Testament:

(A) Joseph & Mary: "The Protective Couple" (Positive Example)

- **Reference:** Matthew 1:18-25
- **Scenario:** Joseph suspected Mary of unfaithfulness (due to the pregnancy), but he did not **"Publicly Shame"** her. He planned to divorce her quietly to protect her dignity.
- **Lesson:** A true man is not one who blackmails a woman or leaks viral videos (as is common today), but one who **protects a woman's honor and dignity**.

(B) Ananias & Sapphira: "The Couple United in Sin" (Negative Example)

- **Reference:** Acts 5:1-11
- **Scenario:** Both conspired together to lie to the Holy Spirit and hide the price of the land.
- **Lesson:** This is the couple **NOT** to follow. Husbands and wives should be united in righteousness, prayer, and service, but **never in sin**. If one spouse is doing wrong, the other must stop them.

(C) Aquila & Priscilla: "The Serving Missionary Couple" (Ideal Model)

- **Reference:** Acts 18, Romans 16
- **Scenario:** This couple worked together as tentmakers and also served the Gospel alongside Apostle Paul. They opened their home for the Church.
- **Lesson:** This is the best model. Husbands and wives should serve God together, offer their home for ministry, and disciple others.

5. Summary

- Marriage is a lifelong covenant.
- **Husband's Role:** Love + Sacrifice.
- **Wife's Role:** Respect + Support.
- None of this is possible through human effort alone, but only through the **help of the Holy Spirit.**

Student Task (Assignment): In your notes, compare these three couples (Joseph/Mary, Ananias/Sapphira, Aquila/Priscilla) and reflect on which category most modern Christian families fall into today.