

# Love, Sex and Marriage

Lesson One • Ephesians 5:1-2

## The Secret to a Lasting Relationship

### Two Questions:

How do you go about finding real love?

Where did you learn your approach to finding love, sex, and lasting relationships?

### Two Models for Lasting Relationships:

## 1. CULTURE'S Formula for Lasting Relationships!

#### Four Steps to Follow:

Step 1: FIND the right person.

Step 2: FALL in love.

Step 3: FIX your hopes and dreams on this person for your future fulfillment.

Step 4: If FAILURE occurs, repeat steps 1, 2, and 3.

#### The Success Rate:

The DIVORCE population is the fastest growing marital category in America.

#### The Fall-out:

We experience HEARTACHE rather than happily ever after.

## 2. GOD'S Design for Lasting Relationships!

Therefore be imitators of God as dear children. And walk in love, as Christ also has loved us and given Himself for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet-smelling aroma.  
Ephesians 5:1-2

#### Four Steps to Follow:

Step 1: BECOME the right person.

Step 2: WALK in love.

Step 3: Fix your hope on GOD and seek to please Him.

Step 4: If failure occurs, REPEAT steps 1, 2, and 3.

#### The Success Rate:

Among those couples who follow God's design, the divorce rate is much, much LOWER than those who don't.

#### The Reward and the Blessing:

We experience JOY and intimacy with our spouse.

### A Pictorial Summary: Two Models for Lasting Relationships

