

COVENANT MARRIAGE.

That's What She Said : Ashley Self : MANUP.org

*We have to let the one who
DESIGNED it DEFINE it.*

Psalm 127

¹ Unless the Lord builds the house,
the builders labor in vain.

*God's Word gives us DIRECTION,
PROTECTION, and CORRECTION.*

2 Timothy 3

¹⁶ All scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching,
rebuking, correcting, and training in righteousness.

"Covenant" literally means to CUT.

Genesis 2

^{20b} But for Adam no suitable helper was found. ²¹ So the Lord God caused the man to fall into a deep sleep, and while he was sleeping, he took one of the man's ribs and then closed up the place with flesh. ²² Then the Lord God made woman from the rib he had taken out of the man, and he brought her to the man.

Covenant vs. Contract.

1. Covenant is a mutual COMMITMENT.
Contract is mutual DISTRUST.
2. Covenant SURRENDERS rights and ASSUMES responsibility. Contract PROTECTS my rights and SKIRTS responsibility.

Ephesians 5

²⁵ Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her.

3. Covenant has the interest of the OTHER in mind.
Contract only has PERSONAL interest in mind.

1 Corinthians 7

⁴ The wife does not have authority over her own body but yields it to her husband. In the same way, the husband does not have authority over his own body but yields it to his wife.

Colossians 3

¹⁴ And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.

The goal of a covenant commitment isn't about PERFECTION -- it's about POSITION and POSTURE.

What Every Wife Wishes Her Husband Knew.

1. Our need for SECURITY is number one.

- This is what God intended. Men need RESPECT and women need SECURITY.
 - Security in STAYING.
 - Security in being the PRIORITY.
 - Security in the FINANCES.
 - Security in PROTECTION.

Malachi 2

¹⁶ The man who hates and divorces his wife, “says the Lord, the God of Israel, “does violence to the one **he should protect**, says the Lord Almighty.

2. Our gift is COMMUNICATION.

- Feeling SECURE and COMMUNICATION go hand in hand.

3. Our desire is PARTNERSHIP.

- We can be EQUAL and DIFFERENT at the same time.
- Partnership also means shared OWNERSHIP.

4. Our hearts are protected when you have intentional, accountable guy RELATIONSHIPS.

- There are things that wives will never understand because we are not WIRED like our husbands.

Marriage is a God-ordained unit with a collective purpose. The purpose is for generations to intentionally pass along and pass down the GOOD NEWS of the Gospel.

Group Discussion.

Q: Can you remember a time when a contract went to your benefit or another person's detriment?

Q: Do you agree that every man's number one need is respect and a woman's number one need is security? Why or why not?

Q: What is one way you can work on communication today?

Q: Give an example of how you and your wife approach certain scenarios differently. How can the approach be different but the goal be the same?