

**My Family Circus:
God's Answer to Surviving A Family
Full of Lions, Clowns, and Daredevils**

September 15, 2013

What Matters Most In A Marriage:
The Five Most Important Priorities of
A Satisfying Relationship
Genesis 2:18-25



Genesis 2:18 *The Lord God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him."*
19 *Now the Lord God had formed out of the ground all the wild animals and all the birds in the sky. He brought them to the man to see what he would name them; and whatever the man called each living creature, that was its name. 20 So the man gave names to all the livestock, the birds in the sky and all the wild animals. 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 a woman from the rib he had taken out of the man, and he brought her to the man. 23 The man said, "This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called 'woman,' for she was taken out of man." 24 That is why a man leaves his father and mother and is united to his wife, and they become one flesh. 25 Adam and his wife were both naked, and they felt no shame.*

Q: Do you ever wonder why God decided two genders are better than one?

"Eve was not taken from the feet of Adam to be his slave, nor from his head to be his lord, but from his side to be his partner."

1158 A.D. Peter Lombard, Poet & Professor

What Matters Most In A Marriage:

The Five Most Important Priorities of A Satisfying Relationship

Priority #1: **Marriage is a lifelong commitment a man & women make to one another in the pursuit of ... becoming unified as one.**

Matthew 19:3-12 *"...So they are no longer two, but one flesh."*

Ephesians 5:32, the Apostle Paul gives us the full revelation of what it means to become one flesh, *"This is a profound mystery—but I am talking about Christ and the church. However, each one of you also must love his wife as he loves himself, and the wife must respect her husband."*

Priority #2: **A satisfying marriage is one where each partner seeks to UNDERSTAND one another and their differences**

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Illustration: Men are like waffles... women are like spaghetti

Priority #3: **A healthy, satisfying marriage is a relationship where each person is valued for who they are.**

Genesis 2:25 *"Adam and his wife were both naked, and they felt no shame."*

"Shame" = Hebrew, *bosh* = "to fall into disgrace through failure."

"Naked" = vulnerable, unified, trusting

FIVE love languages are:

- Acts of Service
- Physical Touch
- Quality Time
- Words of Affirmation
- Giving and Receiving of Gifts

Challenge: Find out what your spouses personality and love language are... then find some ways to show your spouse how much you value them for WHO they are.

(See website for: The Personality Inventory & the 5 Love Languages)