

Marriage and Family Are Ordained of God

Marriage between a man and a woman

Study:

Read Mark 10:6–9; 1 Corinthians 11:11; and the following statement by Sister Bonnie L. Oscarson, former Young Women General President. Look for teachings about marriage between a man and a woman.



We are taught in the scriptures, “Nevertheless neither is the man without the woman, neither the woman without the man, in the Lord” [1 Corinthians 11:11]. For anyone to attain the fulness of priesthood blessings, there must be a husband and a wife sealed in the house of the Lord, working together in righteousness and remaining faithful to their covenants. This is the Lord’s plan for His children, and no amount of public discourse or criticism will change what the Lord has declared. . . . Let us be defenders of marriage as the

Lord has ordained it while continuing to show love and compassion for those with differing views. (Bonnie L. Oscarson, “Defenders of the Family Proclamation,” *Ensign or Liahona*, May 2015, 15)

Discuss:

- How does marriage between a woman and a man help fulfill “the Creator’s plan for the eternal destiny of His children”? (“The Family: A Proclamation to the World,” ChurchofJesusChrist.org).
- How can we show compassion to those with differing views while still defending the Savior’s doctrine of marriage between a man and a woman?

“Multiply and replenish the earth”

Study:

Read Genesis 1:27–28; Psalm 127:3; Mark 10:13–14; and the following statement by Elder Neil L. Andersen of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles. Look for the Lord’s teachings about children.



As we look into the eyes of a child, we see a fellow son or daughter of God who stood with us in the premortal life.

It is a crowning privilege of a husband and wife who are able to bear children to provide mortal bodies for these spirit children of God. We believe in families, and we believe in children.

When a child is born to a husband and wife, they are fulfilling part of our Heavenly Father’s plan to bring children to earth. The Lord said, “This is my work and my glory—to bring to pass the immortality and eternal life of man” [Moses 1:39]. Before immortality, there must be mortality. (Neil L. Andersen, “Children,” *Ensign or Liahona*, Nov. 2011, 28)

Discuss:

- How could viewing children and family with an eternal perspective help a married couple prioritize some of their decisions?
- What can we learn from the Savior’s example concerning how we treat and interact with children?