

## What The Church Can Do To Help Young People Marry Well

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*by Wayne Goff*

Incorporate in its program instruction on preparation for marriage

For example, sermons based on the biblical stories of Isaac & Rebecca, or Ruth, or even from the Song of Solomon. Bible classes designed to encourage young people to be good, moral, and of strong character. Bible classes about married life and what to expect in marriage.

Incorporate in its program instruction on responsibilities of husbands and wives

Individually, young men and women need to learn their own fields of obligation and effort in the marriage relationship. Happy homes do not come simply because we wish for them, nor do they come to a couple when only one mate is doing what God intended for them to do! Marriage is a mutual obligation and duty, yet each partner has specific responsibilities and duties in that relationship.

Encourage more and better teaching about the home in the home

It is chiefly the responsibility of the home to teach on the many aspects of home life. Parents should begin teaching at an early age how to be a good husband or wife, both by positive instruction and by godly example. Good, strong, godly homes do not happen by accident. They are the results of wisdom, foresight, and planning. Young people who marry during their rebellious years wake up one day to the results of that tragedy. Instead, young people should already be thinking about these areas: (1) spirituality of yourself and your future mate; (2) social status from which one comes; (3) economic strength of the future home. How refreshing would it be to find a couple who had married each other after diligent planning on the part of both?!

A happy Valentine's Day will be had by those who did not depend on Cupid to "fall in love."

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