

Marriage Is God's Plan

God has ordained three basic institutions: the church, the government, and the family. The family is the first and foundational institution of human society, composed of individuals related to one another by marriage, blood, or adoption.

According to the Bible, marriage can only be the union of one man and one woman (Gen. 1:27; 2:24). It is the only proper place for sexual relations and is intended to be a life-long relationship. While some in the culture might seek to redefine what constitutes a family, God's perspective is unchanged.

Every civilization in history is built upon the institution of marriage. The welfare of children, the propagation of the faith, the wellbeing of society, and the orderliness of civilization are all dependent upon the stability of marriage according to the divine pattern.

Marriage According to Jesus

Jesus was clear about the definition of marriage: "Haven't you read," he replied, "that at the beginning the Creator 'made them male and female,' and said, 'For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh'? So they are no longer two, but one. Therefore what God has joined together, let man not separate."(Matthew 19:4-6). Jesus affirmed God's plan for marriage, thus rejecting all other sexual relationships – including homosexual relationships.

Marriage Is Under Fire

Unfortunately, many in our culture are seeking to redefine marriage, and therefore destroy it altogether. Homosexual activists and their allies refuse to stop short of legalizing same-sex "marriage." When the God-given pattern for marriage is undermined, the whole foundation of society becomes unstable. Alarmed by this growing threat to traditional marriage, a number of states have taken action.

Marriage Is Being Defended

While marriage has been redefined to include same-sex "marriage" in a few states (the latest was New York), 30 states have voted for constitutional amendments preserving natural marriage (A 31st state, Hawaii, allows the legislature to decide). Many other states have a Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA) to define marriage between one man and one woman, but these laws could be overturned by courts or altered by legislators. Plus, the federal DOMA has been left undefended by President Obama's Justice Department and is under attack in the courts. Natural marriage must be defended.

Marriage in Minnesota

Some might say, "There doesn't seem to be an immediate threat to natural marriage in Minnesota." Yet same-sex "marriage" in this state could be closer than you think. An amendment to the State Constitution is the only defense against the relentless quest to redefine marriage. Thankfully, your state legislature passed a bill that allows Minnesotans to vote for a constitutional amendment that protects the Biblical definition of marriage. The ballot measure simply states:

Shall the Minnesota constitution be amended to provide that only a union of one man and one woman shall be valid or recognized as a marriage in Minnesota?

We are on the verge of finally protecting marriage for our children and grandchildren in the Minnesota Constitution. So please make the investment to vote "yes" on this question. Let's finish strong. Let's stand for marriage!

For more info on the proposed Marriage Protection Amendment and how you can engage culture and government in Minnesota: Visit MinnesotaforMarriage.com and MFC.org.

For more on defending Faith, Family, and Freedom in America Visit the Family Research Council @ www.FRC.org

TAKE ACTION: PROTECT MARRIAGE IN MINNESOTA

Action Step 1: PRAY: We need to *pray* for God's mercy on a culture that is moving away from God's design (See Genesis 18-19; 2 Chronicles 7:14).

Action Step 2: PRACTICE: We need to *practice* biblical principles for healthy marriage as a positive witness (See Ephesians 5:22-33).

Action Step 3: PARTICIPATE: We need to *participate* in our "government of the people, by the people, and for the people" as Abraham Lincoln described it (See Matthew 5:13-16; 22:21).

- Spread the Word: Try to persuade your family, friends, and acquaintances to take an active role in standing for marriage. Walk your neighborhood and knock on doors. Make some phone calls for marriage. Write an editorial in your local paper about the need to protect marriage between one man and one woman. Do a Facebook post on the importance of God's plan for marriage and the need for it to be protected in the Minnesota Constitution. You can even tweet on Twitter for marriage!
- Make a Donation: The campaign still needs your help to push across the finish line. Your gifts are not tax-deductible, but they are needed. Visit MinnesotaforMarriage.com
- Vote your Values: Make plans and take the time to "Vote FOR Marriage" on Tuesday, November 6.

Action Step 4: PROCLAIM: We need to graciously *proclaim* the promise found in 1 Corinthians 6:9b-11: "Do not be deceived: no sexually immoral people, idolaters, adulterers, male prostitutes, homosexuals, thieves, greedy people, drunkards, revilers, or swindlers will inherit God's kingdom. Some of you were like this. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God." That is Good News!

STAND FOR MARRIAGE!



“For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and they will become one flesh.”

Genesis 2:24