

Study Guide: *Until Death Do Us Part*

1. According to the 2009 Census Bureau survey, “\_\_\_\_\_ percent of people who have ever been married are still married to their first spouse. In other words, more than seven out of ten people are still married to their first spouse” (Shaunti Feldhahn, *The Good News About Marriage*, pg. 21).
2. “The vast majority of marriages last a \_\_\_\_\_; the current divorce rate has never been close to 50 percent—it is closer to 20 to 25 percent for first-time marriages and 31 percent for all marriages—and has been declining for years” (Feldhahn, pg. 40).
3. \_\_\_\_\_ thought marriage was so important that He preached about it in His Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5:31, 32). Jesus said, “Therefore what God has joined together, let not man \_\_\_\_\_” (Matthew 19:6).
4. “The \_\_\_\_\_ of the one-flesh union is analogous to all other kinship ties. We never cease to be parents, children, brothers, or sisters, and these identities carry with them certain obligations to others. So why should our identity as spouses, and the attendant obligations to our spouses be any different? . . . this text envisions a greater stability in the one-flesh union than in any other kinship tie. Indeed, the Genesis account seems to assume that the one-flesh union is the foundation of every other kinship bond” (*Marriage: Biblical and Theological Aspects*, pg. 222).
5. “Then, as the \_\_\_\_\_ joined the hands of the holy pair in wedlock, saying, A man shall ‘leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one’ (Genesis 2:24), He enunciated the law of marriage for all the children of Adam to the close of time. That which the Eternal Father Himself had pronounced good was the law of highest blessing and development for man. Like every other one of God’s good gifts entrusted to the keeping of humanity, marriage has been perverted by sin; but it is the purpose of the \_\_\_\_\_ to restore its \_\_\_\_\_ and beauty” (Ellen White, *Thoughts from the Mount of Blessing*, pg. 63, 64).
6. “For the LORD God of Israel says that He hates \_\_\_\_\_” (Malachi 2:16). However, He permits divorce in the case of adultery (Matt. 19:9) and abandonment of a believer by an unbeliever (1 Corinthians 7:10-15).
7. 6 Biblical keys to help your marriage last till death do you part:
  - 1) Make Christ the center of your home (Matt. 6:33).

“Make Christ \_\_\_\_\_ and last and best in everything. Constantly behold Him, and your love for Him will daily become deeper and stronger.... And as your love for Him increases, your love for each other will grow deeper and stronger” (Ellen White, *Adventist Home*, p. 105). “If Christ indeed is formed within, the hope of glory, there will be union and love in the home.

\_\_\_\_\_ abiding in the heart of the wife will be at agreement with Christ abiding in the heart of the husband. They will be striving together for the mansions Christ has gone to prepare for those who love Him” (AH, p. 120).

- 2) \_\_\_\_\_ openly & honestly about everything—money, kids, work, intimate issues, and spiritual things.
- 3) Husbands \_\_\_\_\_ your wives, and wives \_\_\_\_\_ your husbands (Ephesians 5:25, 33).
- 4) Put each other’s needs ahead of your own (Philippians 2:4).
- 5) Schedule & spend quality & quantity \_\_\_\_\_ together.  
See Deut. 24:5.
- 6) \_\_\_\_\_ each other like God forgives us (Colossians 3:13).

Answers: 72, lifetime, Jesus, separate, permanence, Creator, gospel, purity,  
divorce, first, Christ, Communicate, love, respect, time, forgive