

Marriage in the New Testament

Await instructions from your teacher. After discussing each question with your partner, write your own response to each question. Then wait for further instructions.

John 2:1–11 (The Wedding Feast at Cana)

1. In this Scripture passage, would you say that Jesus is focused on himself or on others? Why is this important to our understanding of Jesus' mission—*his* vocation?
2. What is the significance of changing water into wine?
3. What do the events of the Wedding Feast at Cana tell us about Jesus' understanding of the importance of marriage and family?
4. What is the relationship between the Wedding Feast at Cana and the Sacrament of Marriage?



Ephesians 5:25–32 (Marriage symbolizes Christ’s love for the Church.)

1. Jesus' Great Commandment is to love God with all your heart and to love your neighbor as yourself. How is this commandment raised to the level of a Sacrament in this passage?
2. How can entering the Sacrament of Marriage with a humble appreciation of the gift of marriage as a "great mystery" (Ephesians 5:32) help a married couple to courageously face the challenges of married life?
3. How is it that something as seemingly mundane as daily married life can be one of the most powerful signs of God's faithful love for us?



Matthew 19:3–12 (The Marriage covenant is as permanent as God's fidelity.)

1. What does Jesus say about the reason for allowance for divorce in the time of Moses?

2. How does Jesus interpret the Marriage covenant, and why?

3. What are some of the appealing aspects of remaining faithful to one other person for the rest of your life? What are some of the challenges?

4. What might be some reasons for the skepticism among many today toward permanent marriage? How does preparation for, and understanding of, the Sacrament of Marriage counteract such skepticism?

5. What do the three Scripture passages you just read tell you about Marriage as a special vocation?

