



- Matthew 5:27-32

work spouse (work marriage)

“a co-worker, usually of the opposite sex, with whom one shares a special relationship, having bonds similar to those of marriage”

Wikipedia

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Work_spouse

- "Work spouse" is a phrase, mostly in American English,[1] referring to a co-worker, usually of the opposite sex,[2] with whom one shares a special relationship, having bonds similar to those of a marriage. A work spouse may not just be a co-worker, but can also be someone in a similar field who the individual works closely with from a partnering company. A "work spouse" is also referred to as "workplace spouse", "work wife", or "office husband".

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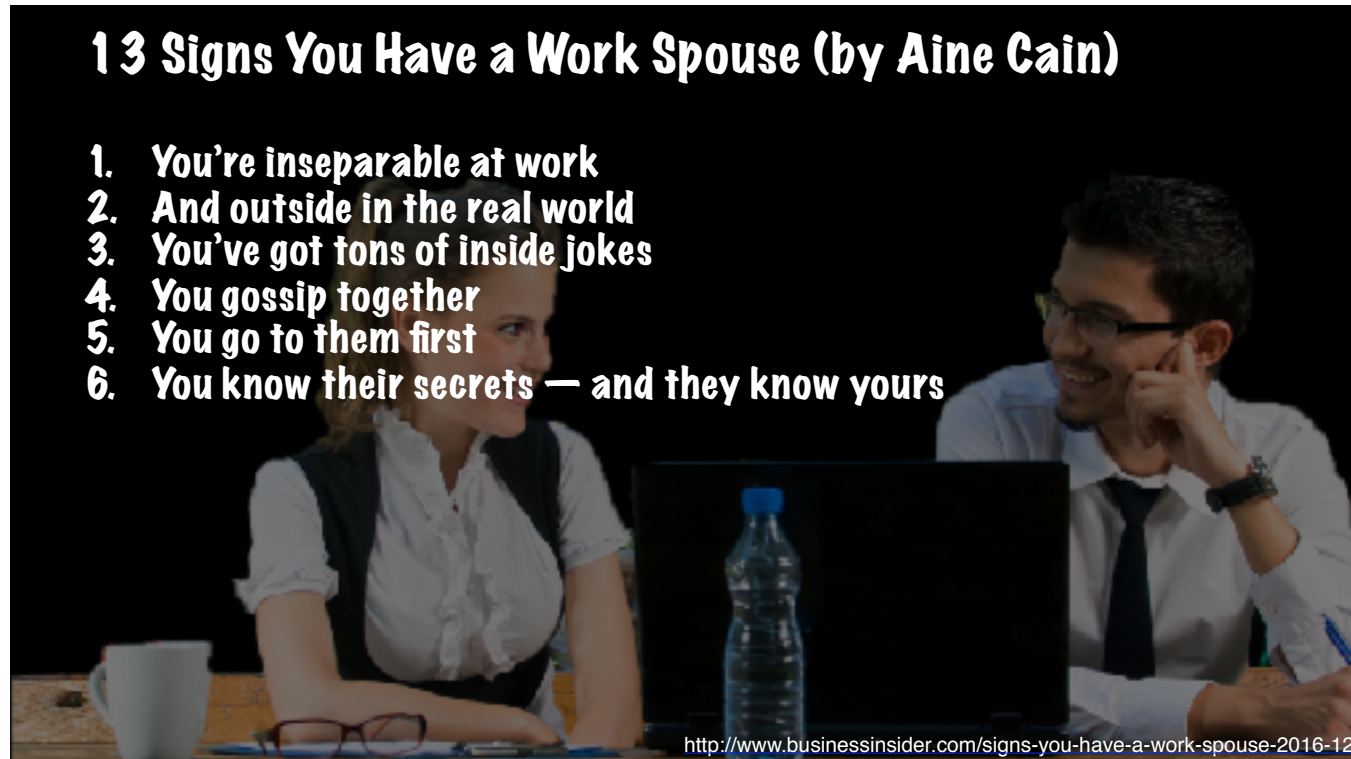
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- In one 2006 survey, 32% of workers said they had an "office husband" or "office wife".[2]
- A CNN Money article characterizes the relationship as having the "immediate intimacy [of marriage] without the sex or commitment." [3]

13 Signs You Have a Work Spouse (by Aine Cain)

1. You're inseparable at work
2. And outside in the real world
3. You've got tons of inside jokes
4. You gossip together
5. You go to them first
6. You know their secrets — and they know yours



<http://www.businessinsider.com/signs-you-have-a-work-spouse-2016-12>

- 13 Signs You Have a Work Spouse, Even If It Doesn't Feel Like It by Aine Cain
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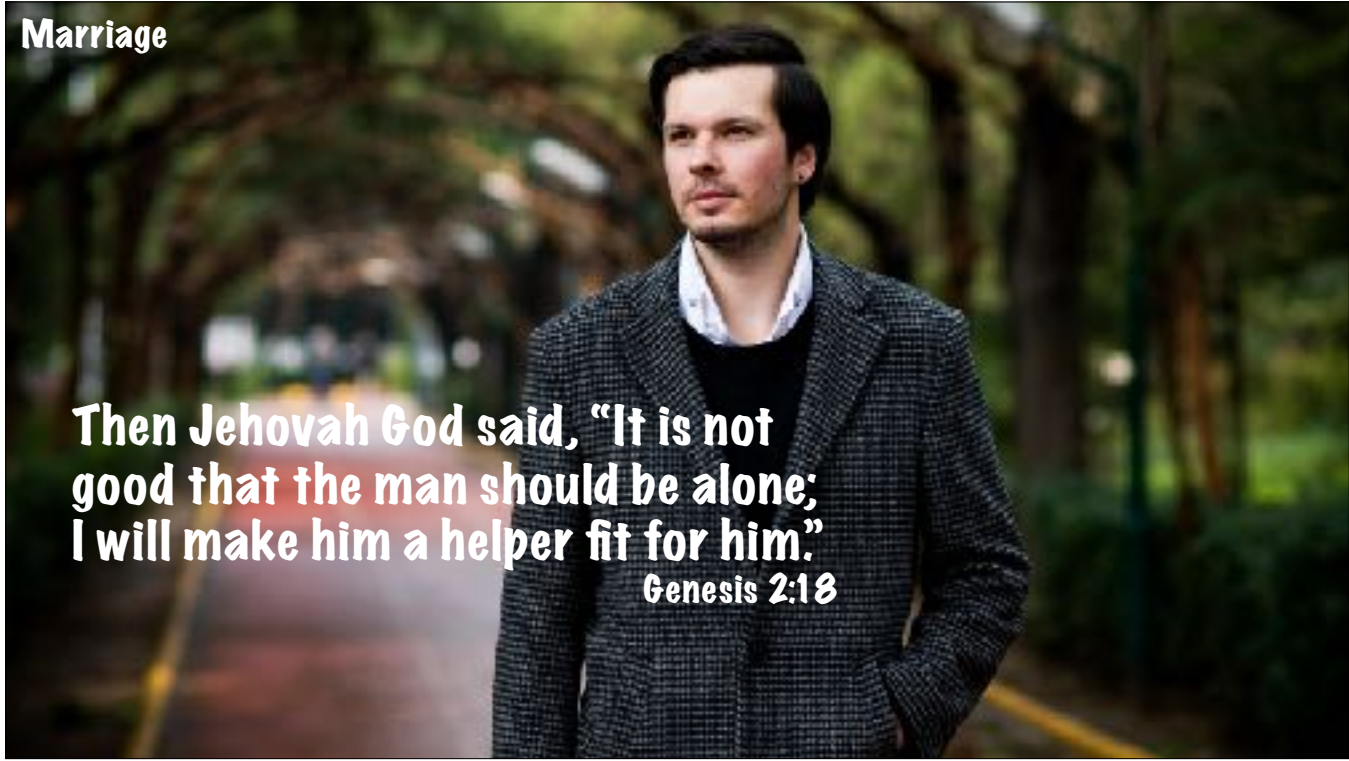
13 Signs You Have a Work Spouse (by Aine Cain)

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- 7. You're real with them**
- 8. You help each other out**
- 9. You stick by them at social events**
- 10. You think about them a lot outside of work**
- 11. You're terrified of them meeting your real significant other**
- 12. You talk about them constantly**
- 13. You're a great team**

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Marriage



**Then Jehovah God said, "It is not
good that the man should be alone;
I will make him a helper fit for him."
Genesis 2:18**

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Marriage

Therefore a man shall leave his
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Genesis 2:24

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Marriage

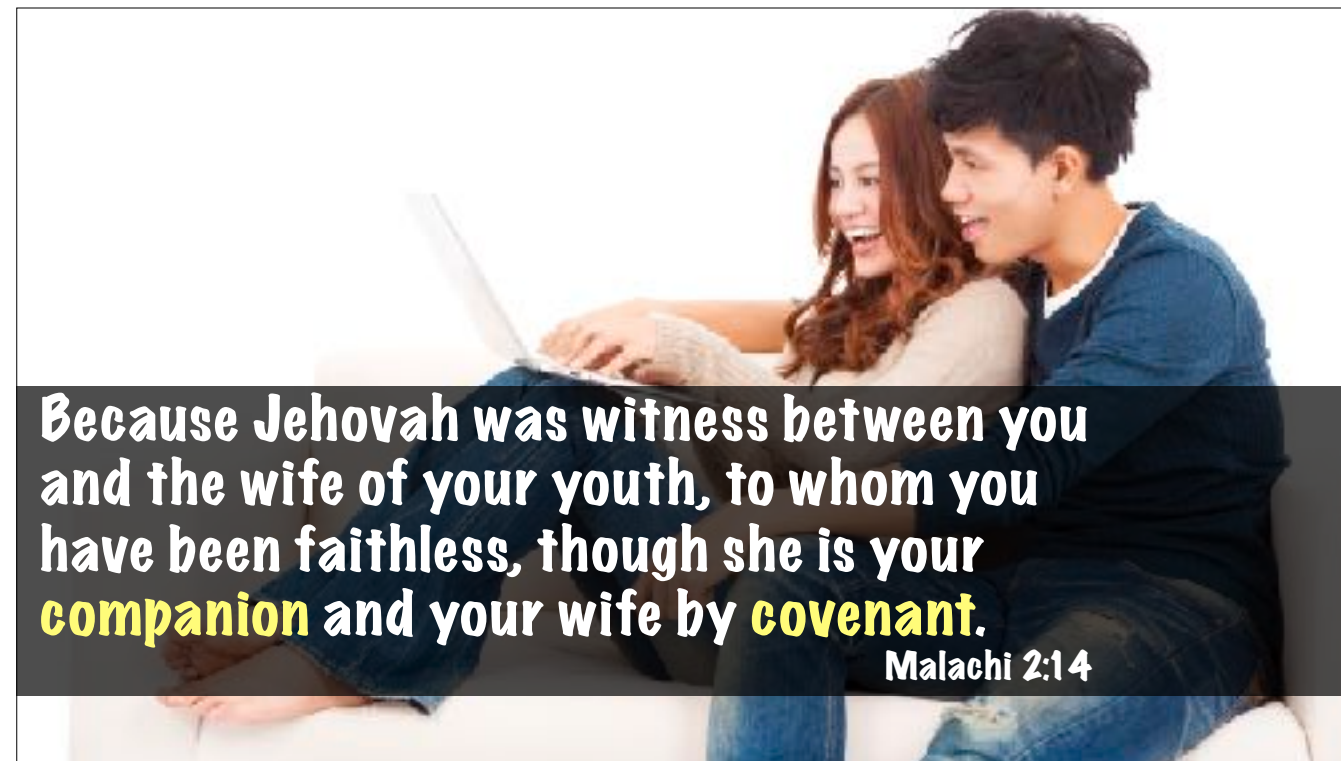
**So they are no longer two but one flesh.
What therefore God has joined together,
let not man separate.”**

Matthew 19:6

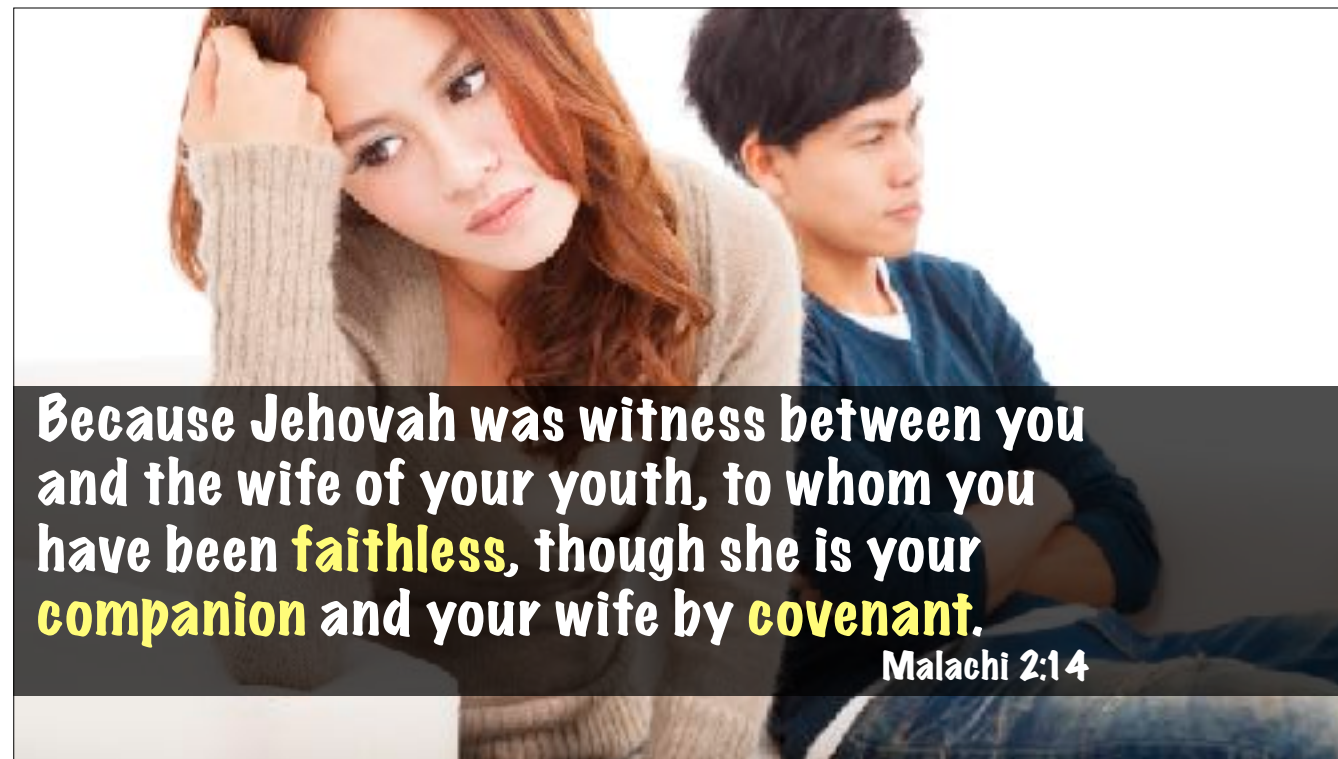
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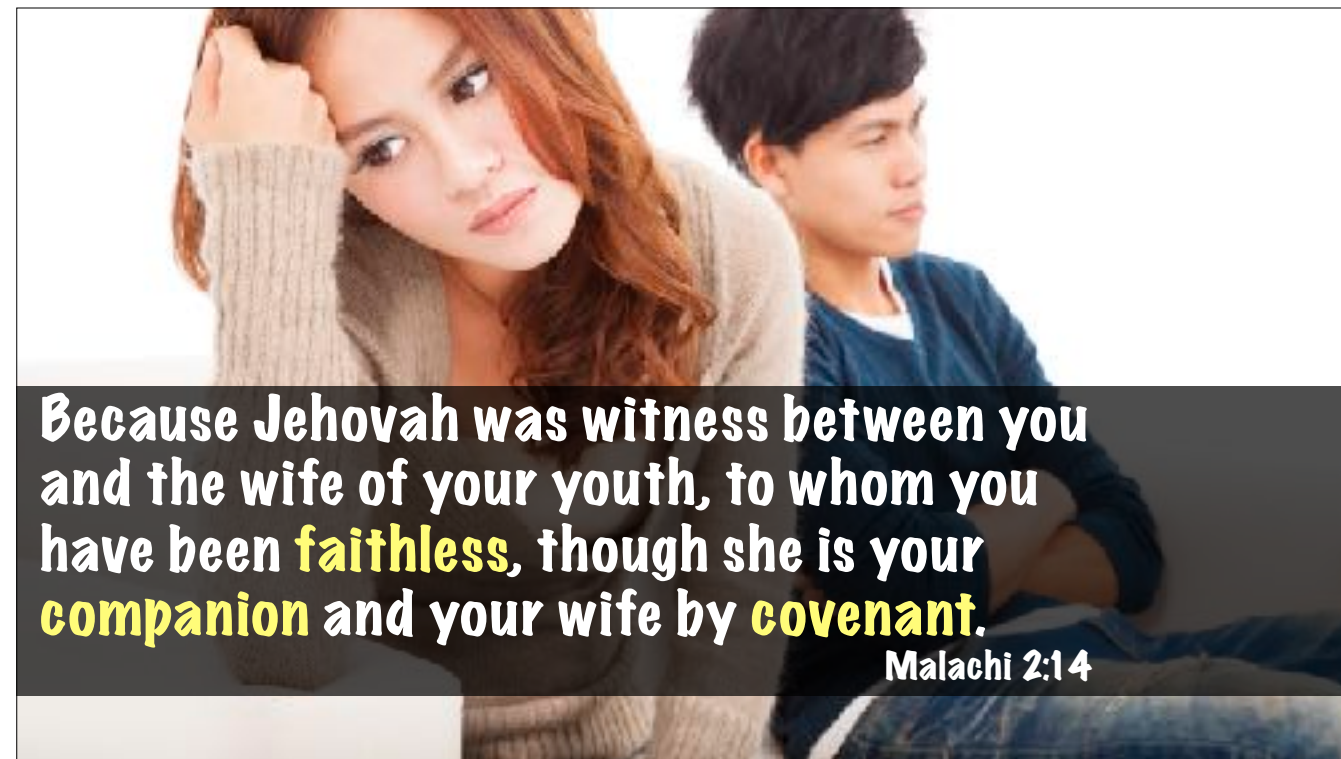
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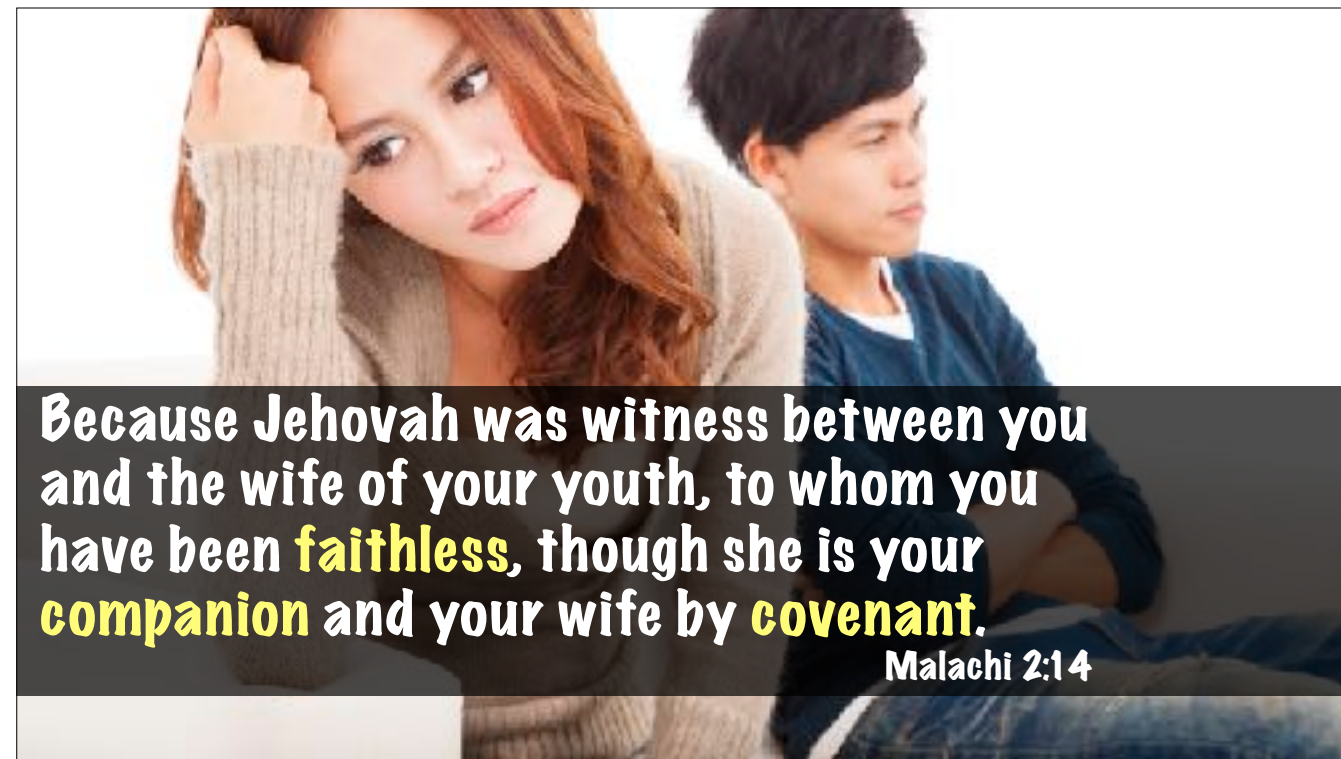
- Malachi 2:14-16 (ESV) 14 But you say, “Why does he not?” Because the Lord was witness between you and the wife of your youth, to whom you have been faithless, though she is your companion and your wife by covenant. 15 Did he not make them one, with a portion of the Spirit in their union? And what was the one God seeking? Godly offspring. So guard yourselves in your spirit, and let none of you be faithless to the wife of your youth. 16 “For the man who does not love his wife but divorces her, says the Lord, the God of Israel, covers his garment with violence, says the Lord of hosts. So guard yourselves in your spirit, and do not be faithless.”



- Faithless:
- BDB: to act treacherously, deceitfully, deal treacherously
- (CWSB Dictionary) H898. בָּגַד bāgaḏ: A verb meaning to deal treacherously with, to be traitorous, to act unfaithfully, to betray. The verb connotes unfaithfulness in relationships like marriage (Ex. 21:8; Jer. 3:20; Mal. 2:14); Israel's covenant with the Lord (Ps. 78:57; 119:158); friendships (Job 6:15; Jer. 3:20; Mal. 2:10); leadership (Judg. 9:23).



- Faithless:
 - (TWOT) to describe the one who deals treacherously. He is one who does not honor an agreement



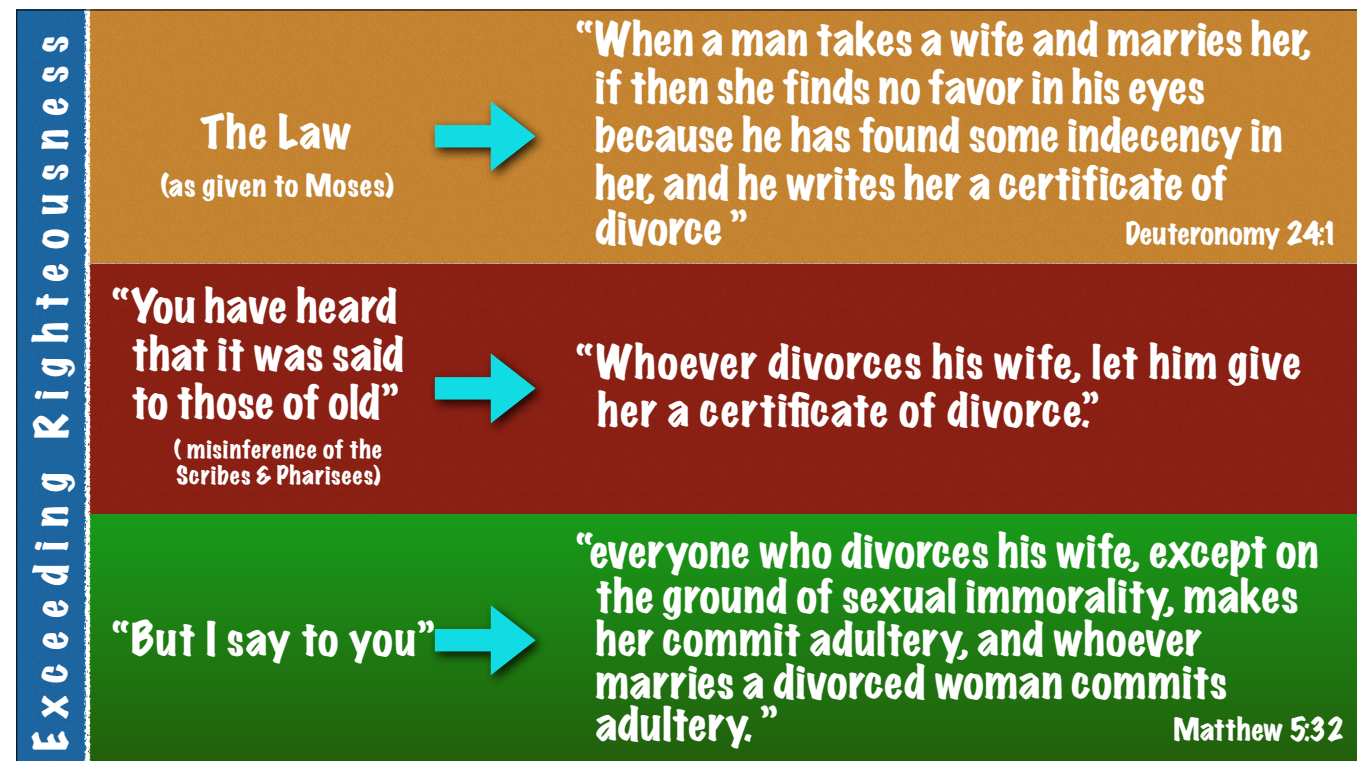
Because Jehovah was witness between you and the wife of your youth, to whom you have been **faithless, though she is your **companion** and your wife by **covenant**.**

Malachi 2:14

- There was a time when adultery and divorce were things of shame, spoken of in whispers.
- But we've accepted
 - fornication (sex outside marriage) is encouraged, propagated
 - adultery is normal and expected
 - divorce is inevitable; promises made to be broken
 - Life-long marriage is unreasonable, unnatural
- We've taught our children that unfaithfulness is okay



- Jesus' second example of true righteousness. Mt. 5:27-32
- Points to purity... but more.
- faithfulness from the heart



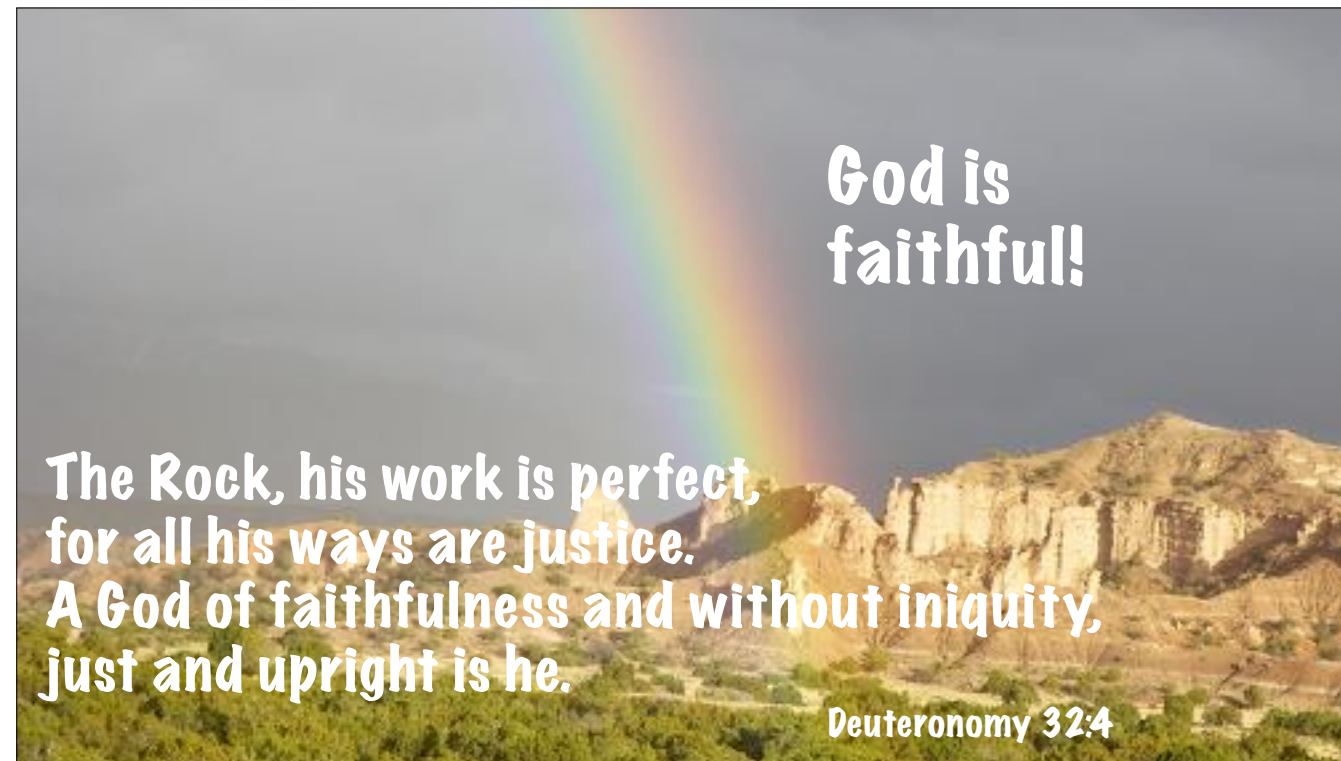
- Divorce is subtle form of adultery (excuse to get new woman/man)
 - Divorce seems to make the lust "legitimate"
 - Used any rational as an excuse for unfaithfulness to wife.



- If all that we learn from this is that
 - 1) we should not commit adultery
 - 2) we shouldn't lust
 - 3) we shouldn't divorce
 - 4) we should take drastic measures to help us avoid sin/lust.
- We are as blind / deceived as S&P!
- What underlying principle is God teaching us about Himself?



- God is faithful: 1 Cor. 1:9; 10:13; 2 Cor. 1:18
- Exodus 34:6: Jehovah passed before him and proclaimed, “Jehovah, Jehovah, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness,



- Deuteronomy 32:4: "The Rock, his work is perfect, for all his ways are justice. A God of faithfulness and without iniquity, just and upright is he.
- Not just keeps promises
- Actively does what is best, right for his people... relationship!
- Hosea: marriage
- Malachi: master, servant



- 1 Corinthians 4:1-2 (ESV) 1 This is how one should regard us, as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God. 2 Moreover, it is required of stewards that they be found faithful.
- Faithfulness defines God
- Faithfulness ought to define me.



**How can I demonstrate that
I am faithful to my spouse?**

- Demonstrating faithfulness in my marriage
 - More than just avoiding wrong / betrayal
 - “Promises are made to be broken.”



How can I demonstrate that I am faithful to my spouse?

- Why it is necessary
 - Many of us struggle with questions, doubts, concerns
 - Infidelity, opportunities for infidelity abound in our society
 - work spouse:
 - okay, because no sex
 - but intimate, bond like marriage
 - Adultery is accepted, expected, “normal”
- Are you faithful to your spouse?
 - How does your spouse KNOW?



- Keys for Faithfulness in Marriage: Proverbs 5:15-21
- Contentment (15-17)



- Keys for Faithfulness in Marriage: Proverbs 5:15-21
- Contentment (15-17)
 - own cistern/ own well
 - Be a one woman man.
 - Be a one man woman.
 - Loyal



- Don't waste
 - If engage in flirtatious behavior with others, what is left for spouse?
 - More than just fulfilling agreement... "I'm stuck with you"
- Don't neglect
 - Spouse higher priority than Career, job, children, hobbies, etc.
 - Only God higher... but not excuse to neglect spouse



- Choose to positively influence, work for your relationship
 - Decide that each day you will do something to improve relationship (no matter how good or how bad you think it is)
- Love Dare
 - 1 Cor. 13: Love is...
 - Fruit of spirit... (Gal. 5)



How can I demonstrate that I am faithful to my spouse?

- Rejoice (18-19)
 - See spouse as lovely and graceful
 - 1 Peter 3:1-6:
 - conduct: respectful and pure (2)
 - not outward adorning (3)
 - hidden person of heart: gentle and quiet spirit (4)



- 1 Peter 3:7
 - Understanding way
 - Concern for her needs, desires
 - Respect: listening
 - Honor woman... weaker vessel (valuable, precious)
 - Heirs with you (brother or sister in Christ)



How can I demonstrate that I am faithful to my spouse?

- Remember the joy of youth
 - Easy to become “comfortable”; lose feeling of excitement
 - Complacent about relationship
 - Ephesians 5:22-32
 - Wives: submit, respect
 - Husbands: love, give up self, nourish, cherish
 - ONE FLESH - United for a reason!



Rejoice

How can I demonstrate that I am faithful to my spouse?

- Colossians 3:18-19: Wives, submit to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord. 19 Husbands, love your wives, and do not be harsh with them.



How can I demonstrate that I am faithful to my spouse?

- Submit... willingness to follow the lead of your husband
 - critical and contentious
 - Proverbs 27:15-16 (ESV) 15 A continual dripping on a rainy day and a quarrelsome wife are alike; 16 to restrain her is to restrain the wind or to grasp oil in one's right hand.



Rejoice

How can I demonstrate that I am faithful to my spouse?

- Love ... do not be harsh
 - BDB: to embitter. exasperate; render angry, indignant; to be embittered, irritated
- If husband refuses to be irritated, exasperated, and bitter with wife, less chance she will be contentious



- Proverbs 31:11: The heart of her husband trusts in her, and he will have no lack of gain.
 - Two way street!
 - Trust your wife: assume the best of her
 - Make sure your husband can trust you: don't hide, don't keep secrets



- Proverbs 31:28: Her children rise up and call her blessed; her husband also, and **he praises her**:
 - See your wife as a blessing in your life.
 - Praise her; affirm her



How can I demonstrate that I am faithful to my spouse?

- Delight (19)
 - nit-picky; easy to see faults, deficiencies.
 - Rather look at and see good; look for reasons to love.
 - Before others, always hold up spouse
 - How do you look at each other?
 - barely tolerate? or delight?
 - Turn to each other first for help.



How can I demonstrate that I am faithful to my spouse?

- Choose to be engaged with each other; don't let distractions keep you from spending quality and quantity time together.
 - Time on electronic devices (Phone, games, TV)
 - Reading
 - Make a special time with each other when you put aside distractions
 - Talk about life
 - Pray together



- Intoxicated, enraptured (19)
- Contentment
 - No wondering eyes: real life; porn; movies; tv; books; imagination; “romance”
 - Looking for what is “missing” in my spouse
 - These all feed our lust



- Don't threaten to leave by words or actions
 - Assurance
- Why enraptured with strange woman? (looks, excitement, attention)
 - Careful in how interact with others of opposite sex

Discipline



**How can I demonstrate that
I am faithful to my spouse?**

- Discipline (21)
 - Consider consequences
 - Ways before Jehovah
 - Trap, Die
 - looking beyond the momentary pleasure of sin
 - Jehovah sees... it's not a secret and you won't get away with it

Discipline



**How can I demonstrate that
I am faithful to my spouse?**

- Discipline vs. Foolishness
 - opportunities may abound
 - easy to rationalize and justify



- Proverbs 5:3-6 (ESV) 3 For the lips of a forbidden woman drip honey, and her speech is smoother than oil, 4 but in the end she is bitter as wormwood, sharp as a two-edged sword. 5 Her feet go down to death; her steps follow the path to Sheol; 6 she does not ponder the path of life; her ways wander, and she does not know it.



- Proverbs 5:7-14 (ESV) 7 And now, O sons, listen to me, and do not depart from the words of my mouth. 8 Keep your way far from her, and do not go near the door of her house, 9 lest you give your honor to others and your years to the merciless, 10 lest strangers take their fill of your strength, and your labors go to the house of a foreigner, 11 and at the end of your life you groan, when your flesh and body are consumed, 12 and you say, “How I hated discipline, and my heart despised reproof! 13 I did not listen to the voice of my teachers or incline my ear to my instructors. 14 I am at the brink of utter ruin in the assembled congregation.”



- Proverbs 7:21-27: 21 With much seductive speech she persuades him; with her smooth talk she compels him. 22 All at once he follows her, as an ox goes to the slaughter, or as a stag is caught fast 23 till an arrow pierces its liver; as a bird rushes into a snare; he does not know that it will cost him his life. 24 And now, O sons, listen to me, and be attentive to the words of my mouth. 25 Let not your heart turn aside to her ways; do not stray into her paths, 26 for many a victim has she laid low, and all her slain are a mighty throng. 27 Her house is the way to Sheol, going down to the chambers of death.

- **Contentment**
- **Rejoice**
- **Discipline**



**How can I demonstrate that
I am faithful to my spouse?**

- Demonstrating faithfulness in my marriage
- Contentment
- Rejoicing
- Discipline

**We implore you on
behalf of Christ,
be reconciled to God.**

2 Corinthians 5:20

Let all that you do be done in love.

1 Corinthians 16:14



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God Is Faithful! (part 2) Demonstrating Faithfulness to My Spouse

Matthew 5:27-32

Synopsis: Jesus' second example of true righteousness is exemplified by the prohibition of adultery and divorce, both of which the Scribes and Pharisees had relaxed, failing to understand that the problem was in the heart. True righteousness understands that this is really about faithfulness. In marriage we covenant to be one flesh, adultery violently violates that relationship, as does divorce. In this lesson we also consider ways that we can actively demonstrate our faithfulness to our spouse by being content, rejoicing and considering the consequences.

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"Let all that you do be done with love."