I. Our purpose.
   a. In the beginning, God created man. (Genesis 1:1; 2:18)
   b. God created woman, a helper comparable to him. (Genesis 2:21-23)
   c. God created marriage, to allow a man and woman to be brought together as one. (Genesis 2:24; Matthew 19:6)

II. Our Guidance
   a. God views marriage very favorably. (Hebrews 13:1-4; Genesis 2:18)
      i. The Proverbs writer clearly states God’s view. (Proverbs 18:22)
      ii. God emphasizes the importance of finding a good mate. (Proverbs 31:10-11)
      iii. God also warns against finding the wrong mate. (Proverbs 21:9)

   b. God also says we both have responsibilities.
      i. Wives: Submit to your husbands and respect them. (Ephesians 5:22-24, 33)
      ii. Husbands: Love your wives even as Christ loved the church (Ephesians 5:25-33)
      iii. Our Homes: Are we serving the Lord? (Colossians 3:18-20; Joshua 24:15)