



# GROWING

God's  
**Good**  
Story





LESSON 4

## I know God's plan for marriage

**Genesis 2:18-25** ▪ **Matthew 19:4-6**

**faith**  **kids**

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Growing Up - God's Good Story

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We recommend the International Children's Bible for use with children during the lesson. Our leader's notes and parent handouts use the New International Version.

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"All for the glory of God alone" (1 Corinthians 10:31)



## LESSON 4

# I know God's plan for marriage

Genesis 2:18-25

Matthew 19:4-6



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### Truth that changes me:

God created marriage between one man and one woman for all of their lives.



### Faith in Kids looks like:

Children who trust God that his plan for marriage is good.

## Preparation

As you prepare this lesson, we recommend watching the training video, and the introductory video if you haven't seen it.



## Notes



### Where are we going?

This session explains that marriage is the faithful, loving commitment of one man and one woman for life and the only true home for sex and procreation. God has designed it this way to help us understand his good, loving faithfulness to us.

Pray and read the Bible passage. Read **Where are we going**, **The world our children live in** and **Look at the passage** to give you a better understanding of how to apply the truth.



### The world our children live in

Our children have different experiences of marriage - positive, negative, non-existent. Many families look different from the one man, one woman faithful marriage that Genesis describes. Relationships are often presented as temporary and self-serving, a way of getting what you want for as long as you want it. Friends can be picked, used and then dropped. Further down the line, hook-up culture picks a partner, uses, dumps, moves on - sex is just another activity consenting adults can enjoy.

God's pattern for relationships is different. He never gives up on us, he sticks with us through good and bad, because he faithfully loves us to the end of time. We need to hold up high the goodness of God's design for marriage whilst offering understanding and compassion to those who make other choices and experience the world's brokenness. Our children won't hear of God's good and secure plan for relationships, sex and families anywhere else.





## Look at the passage



### A Loving God Created Friendship

*"The Lord God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him.""* **GENESIS 2:18**

In all the goodness of creation, one thing stood out like a sore thumb – Adam being on his own. God creates a helper – a companion who is equal with Adam, yet richly different from him – she is the answer to the “not good”.

We may never marry, Jesus didn't, but we all need friends who are different from us. “It isn't good to be alone” does not mean everyone should marry – it does mean everyone needs friends.

### A Faithful God Created Marriage

*"That is why a man leaves his father and mother and is united to his wife, and they become one flesh."* **GENESIS 2:24**

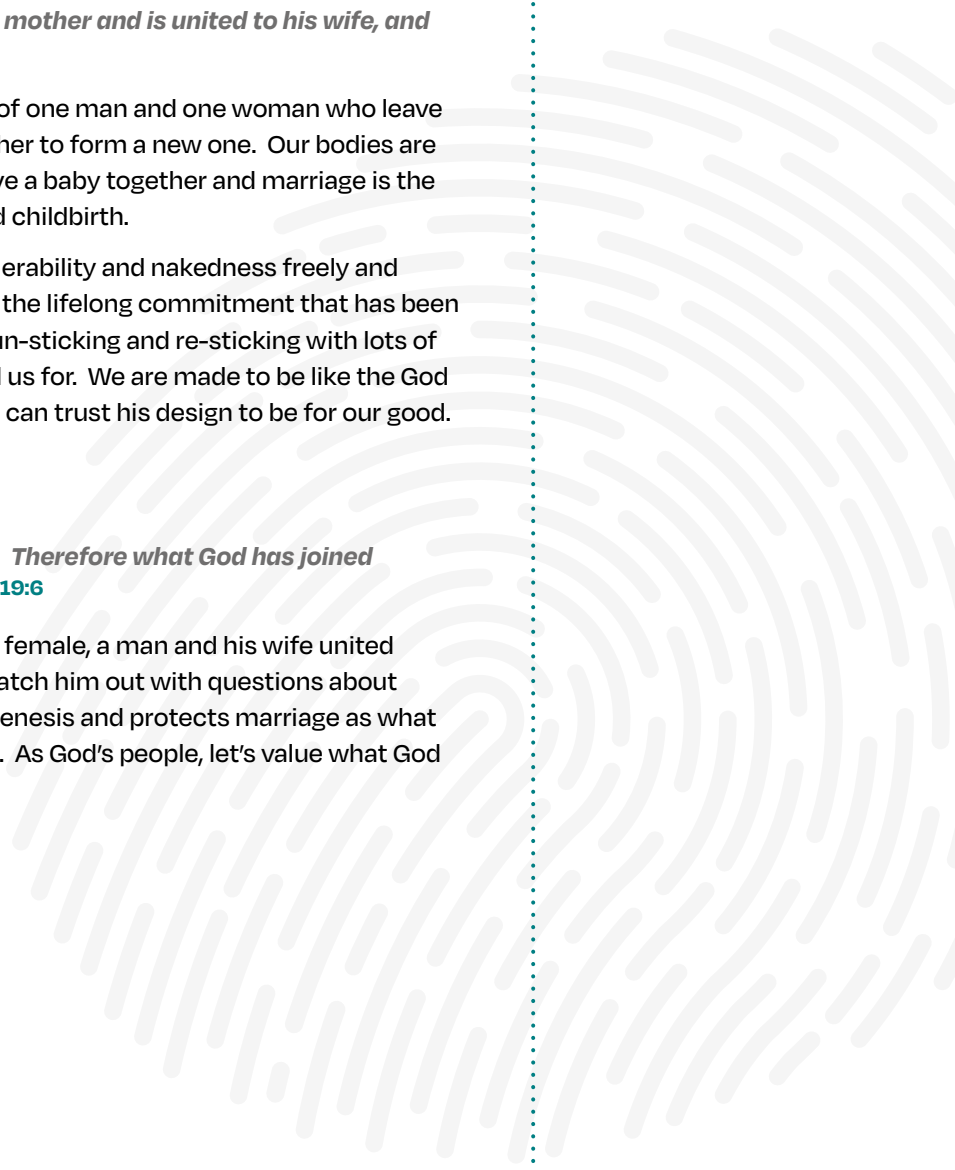
Marriage is God's invention, it is the uniting of one man and one woman who leave the families they grew up in and stick together to form a new one. Our bodies are designed so that a man and woman can have a baby together and marriage is the home God designed for sexual intimacy and childbirth.

Marriage is the place to enjoy intimacy, vulnerability and nakedness freely and without fear or embarrassment because of the lifelong commitment that has been made to one another. Constantly sticking, un-sticking and re-sticking with lots of different partners is not what God designed us for. We are made to be like the God who is faithful, loving and sticks with us, we can trust his design to be for our good.

### Jesus Protects Marriage

*"So they are no longer two but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate."* **MATTHEW 19:6**

Jesus is clear on what marriage is, male and female, a man and his wife united as one. As he answers pharisees trying to catch him out with questions about divorce, Jesus, an unmarried man, echoes Genesis and protects marriage as what God has joined that we should not separate. As God's people, let's value what God values and protect what he protects.





## Win my heart first

Generally speaking, we don't like being told what to do. This is especially true for our children and young people, living in a culture that idolises individual freedom and self-expression. It can feel grating that God has something to say about who we have sex with and how our relationships should go, until we remember who is speaking to us. God loves us more than we can imagine. He knows better than us what is good for us. As our Creator, as the source of all love and as the promise-keeping God, we really can trust his good model for marriage and encourage our children and young people to do the same.

- How does marriage - your own or other people's - help you appreciate God's faithful love for you?
- Have you experienced broken, unhealthy or unwise relationships? Could that help you teach the children in your group about God's desire for their relationships?



*For your heart, before you prepare the lesson.*



## 5 minutes to focus on your group

How do you think the children in your group understand marriage? A big party or a lifelong commitment? What do their families, and their friends' families, look like? How will you be clear about God's good design, whilst being compassionate to other experiences? Are there situations in your group that make you nervous about teaching this?

*What do the children in your group need?*

*Pray for them:  
• to grasp the truth*



## In case you're feeling nervous...

- In this lesson we are presenting God's good plan for marriage. There is a long-list of topics that could be covered, or raised by children in response: same-sex marriage, divorce, singleness, co-habitation, sex. It is normal to see this list and feel nervous.
- We gently introduce sex in the language "sticking together" and Velcro imagery. If children ask questions or for further details, you don't have to answer. Acknowledge the question, thank the child, and suggest you speak with them and their parents together at the end of the session.
- Not all marriages work out - there will be hurt and pain among children and parents. Children may speak about situations that they are aware of, or personally experiencing. You could chat with your minister to find out if there is anything you need to be aware of in the families in your group.
- If children ask questions about divorce or relationships that are not one man and one woman in marriage, remember to bring them back to God's good plan and keep the discussion there. We don't want to say that all of these relationships are "bad". Speak with compassion and grace about relationships in a fallen world, whilst focusing on God's good plan.
- If you are asked questions that you feel uncomfortable answering, it's OK to say, "That's a great question, let's talk with your parents at the end of the session".

*We understand this might feel daunting. We are starting a conversation not completing it.*





## Series overview visual



The series overview visual (see p.19) helps to explain the foundation of this series. Because God created us, he knows us better than anyone else. He gets to tell us who we are.

The visual shows a person hearing messages from themselves - these are thoughts and feelings (represented by the thought clouds); messages from others - including other people and the media (represented by speech bubbles); and messages from God - what he has written in the Bible. The crown shows that God's messages are the most important - we only let other messages stick if they say the same things as God says. God made us and loves us more than anyone, great delight comes from listening to him.





# All-together time



*This has been written as an all-age slot to introduce the whole church family to what the children are learning today, but it could be adapted for the children's classes*



## Props

Velcro, emojis (on a screen or as a printed prop)



## What to Say



## What to Do

In this series called 'Growing Up', we've already seen how God has made us male or female and given us valuable bodies.

This week we will see that God created friendship and marriage to give us a taste of his love and faithfulness.

In the beginning, God made the world and packed it full of good things – as God came to the end of his work of creation – there was only one thing that stood out as NOT GOOD!

Adam was alone!

Show sad emoji

So, God made a woman – Eve – to be his helper. In some ways she's the same as Adam: made by God, made in the image of God. In other ways she's different from Adam: one difference was that she looked different, she had a different body. Male and female.

Now Adam was no longer alone – HOORAY!

Show star eyes emoji

Eve was the answer to that "not good".

We're all made to love others because we're made by a God who is love. Everyone needs friends to love and be loved by, and having friends who are different from us is really good!

God put Adam and Eve together as friends, but he also put them together as man and wife. Theirs was the first marriage.

Genesis says...

"That is why a man leaves his father and mother and is united to his wife, and they become one flesh."

Show heart eyes emoji

Put verse on a screen if you have one.

continued →

## What to Say

## What to Do

Do you have Velcro on something?  
On your shoes? Your book bag? On your coat?  
Velcro is really good at sticking together,  
One side is fluffy – it has lots of tiny loops  
One side is spiky – it has lots of tiny hooks  
When the hooks and loops are put together, they hold onto each other really well

Have a large strip of Velcro ready to show.

Encourage people to look at their shoes / inspect your Velcro strip.

Stick the two parts together – show how they hold.

God made men and women differently. One of these differences is that their bodies have different designs. They can fit together as they show love to one another and can sometimes make a baby together.

God designed marriage to be one man and one woman, different like the two sides of Velcro, sticking tightly together through good times and bad.

This sticking together in marriage is how God planned for lifelong love to be enjoyed, babies to be made and new families to be formed.

Not everyone gets married. You might never get married. That's OK, Jesus never did.

But he had something important to say about marriage...

"For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate."

Jesus said marriage is God sticking together a man and a woman. If God puts something together we should want to keep it together and not try to split it up.

Put verse on a screen if you have one.

Not all marriages are good and not all marriages stay together, because people are messy. When marriages split up it is sad and hard.

In those sad times, we can remember that God loves us, is faithful to us and will never leave us. He sticks! He holds on, no matter what else changes, we can trust him to love us always.

Separate the Velcro

continued →



## What to Say

## What to Do

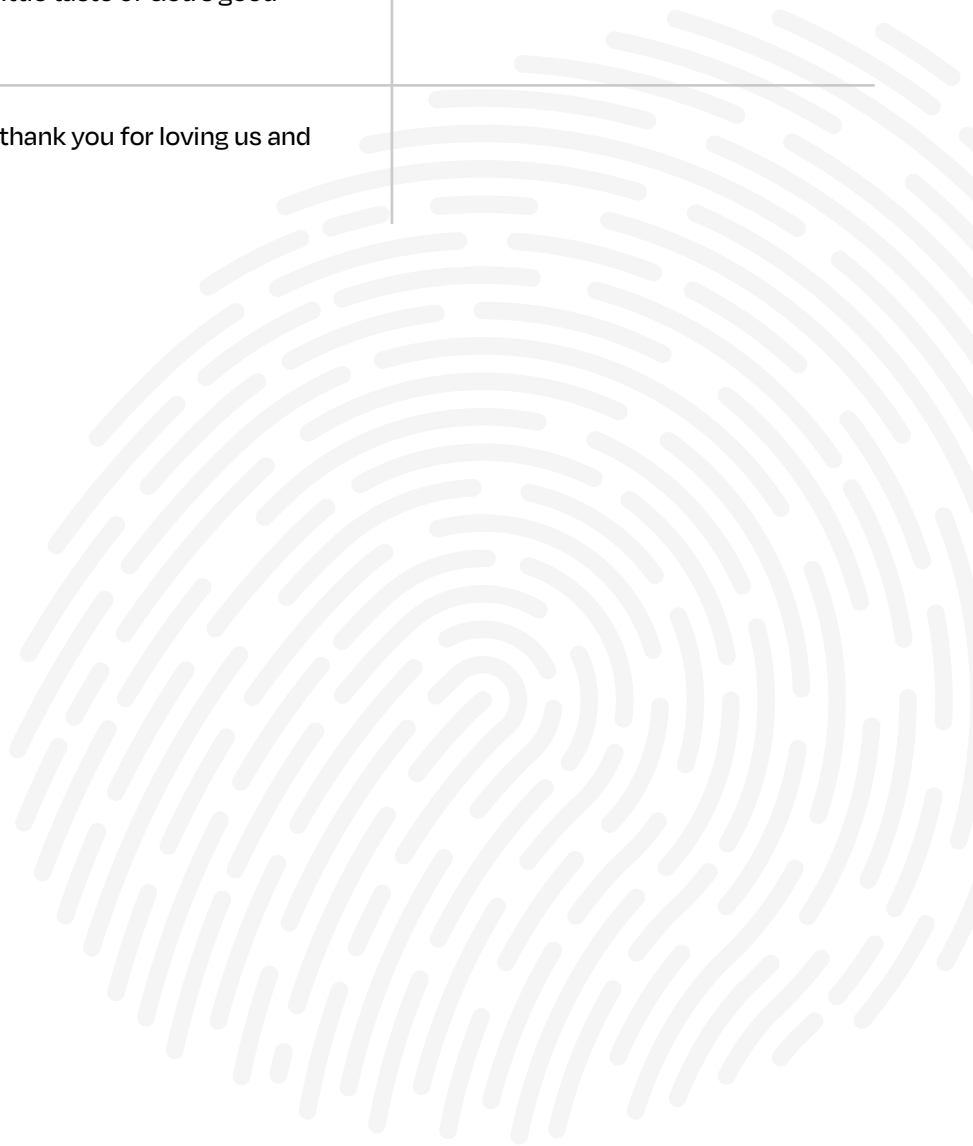
You will hear lots of different ideas about what marriage is and when people should stick together or split up or sleep together.

The God who made us says marriage is one man and one woman for life and sleeping together is for people who are sticking together in marriage.

Parents, we want to help you in talking about these tricky things – we hope today's session and the take home sheet will help you do just that.

Next time you see a marriage of people who are sticking together and love one another – remember that this is a little taste of God's good love for us.

Pray – Thank you God for making marriage, thank you for loving us and sticking with us always. Amen.





## 7s and under lesson plan




### Notes



### Get going

#### Stick Together

The game is about sticking together. One team must hold hands and stick together as a team. Perhaps start with just two children. The others must run around in the zone and avoid getting tagged by the "stick together" team. If they're tagged, they join the "stick together" team. After a time limit, count up how many players they were able to tag whilst sticking together. Swap over. The team that sticks together and tags the most players wins. *You could make this a walking-only game to make it safer.*

 **Link:** It wasn't always easy to stick together. But if you managed it, you could win! Today we are learning that God created marriage to stick one man and one woman together, like he sticks with us.

**You will need:** A marked out zone to run around in, split the group into two teams.



### Teaching time

#### God is Love!

*Have two large hearts, one bigger than the other – write GOD on the bigger one and ME on the other.*

*Show the God-heart. God always loves. God is love!*

*Add the me-heart to the God-heart. God loves me. God loves you. God is faithful, that means he never stops loving us! He doesn't fall out with us, he never ever leaves us... he sticks with us. Glue the hearts together – nothing can separate us from God's love for us. Ask each child to come up and write their name/initial on the me-heart.*

*Can you think of something that never stops? What seems to just always be there? Take all sorts of answers, then end with a good example, e.g., day follows night follows day follows night cycle. That's like God's love!*

#### A Loving God Created Friendship

*Show Adam & Eve picture from a children's Bible*

*Then the Lord God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper who is right for him." Genesis 2:18 (ICB)*

**You will need:** Hearts cut from paper, glue sticks, children's Bible picture of Adam & Eve, Velcro fastening items – e.g. shoes, book bag.

continued →



When God created Adam, he said "it is not good for the man to be alone." So God made Eve, another person made like God, just like Adam was, but different too. A person to be a friend.

*Hold up the Me-heart.* It is not good for any of us to be alone. We are made to love others. *Hold up a blank heart.* We all need friends and we can be friends with boys and with girls. It is good to have more than one friend. Some friends go away and other people arrive who need us to love them.

Tell me about one of your friends. How are they like you and how are they different?

*Give the children a cut-out paper heart to draw them and their friend on, showing these differences and similarities.*

## A Faithful God Created Marriage

**"So a man will leave his father and mother and be united with his wife. And the two people will become one body." GENESIS 2:24 (ICB)**

*Show an Adam & Eve picture from a children's Bible.*

God made Adam and Eve as more than friends. They were made as husband and wife, to be married and stick together for their whole life, to love one another and start a new family, having children together.

When God made Eve, she was in some ways just like Adam, but in other ways she was different. One difference was that Eve had a different body - she was female, Adam was male.

*Have several Velcro items to hand around, e.g. shoes, a book bag. Encourage the children to look closely at the Velcro.*

Velcro has different sides - one is fluffy and one is spiky. What do we need to make Velcro stick together really well? *Get the children to experiment with putting fluffy sides together, spiky sides together, opposites together.* You need one spiky part and one fluffy part, two different types. That is how Velcro was made to work.

God created marriage to be one man and one woman sticking together for a whole lifetime. Men and women are different, a bit like Velcro, so they can stick together really well. A man and a woman can make promises to God and to each other to always love each other and to stick together, just like God has promised to always love us and to stick with us.

Not all marriages are good and not all marriages stay together because people are messy. When marriages split up it is sad and hard. In those sad times, we can remember that God loves us, is faithful to us and will never leave us. He sticks! He holds on, no matter what else changes, we can trust him to love us always.

continued →





## Brain break

### Sticky Shoes

One at a time, the children have to run across the room, put on a shoe and run back. When everyone has one shoe, each child in turn goes to get the second matching shoe until all the shoes are on feet! Ask the children to be very careful of other people's shoes, particularly if they are smaller than their feet.

➔ **Link:** In this game - you found a left and a right shoe - they were designed as a pair to fit together - they need to stay together. When a man and a woman get married they promise to stick together all their lives. Whether we are married or not, God always sticks with us.



#### You will need:

Ask all the children to take off their shoes and put them in a pile on the other side of the room.



## Heart & hands

### CRAFT TIME

### I am loved by a faithful God craft

Ask the children to draw a picture of themselves on the 'Loves me' heart and colour in the people on the 'Made marriage' heart. Fold the hearts in half and stick them together to create a 3D heart as shown below (stick the back of one half of 'Loves me' to the corresponding half of 'Made marriage', then stick the 3D heart to the 'A loving and faithful God' side of the paper).

As they colour in and glue the hearts on, remind the children that God's love for them is faithful, he will love them and stick with them always. Marriage where a man and woman promise to stick together and love one another is just a little taste of God's love for us.

#### You will need:

Print p.20 (one sheet per child), scissors, glue and colouring crayons.

#### Prepare in advance:

Cut the page in half and cut out the hearts ready for the children to colour and stick.

Make the **Truth that changes me** personal to each child.

Use this craft time to reinforce the **Big Idea** of the lesson to get them ready for **Think Time**.



continued →

## Think time

**Big Question:** What does marriage teach us about God's love for us?

**A follow up question:** How can you show God's faithful love to your friends?



## Prayer

**Say together:** Heavenly Father, thank you that you love us and will never stop loving us, thank you that you stick with us. Help us to be people who keep our promises and love others faithfully. Amen





## 8s and over lesson plan




### Notes



### Get going

#### Stick the Bricks

The game is about sticking together. Split the blocks into two piles (each containing a mix of connecting and non-connecting blocks). Tell the children they need to collect one block from each pile and stick them together. The one with the most connected pairs of blocks wins.

 **Link:** Today we are learning that God created marriage to be between one man and one woman to stick together. You chose the blocks that you knew would stick together to make your pairs. God designed us as male and female so together we can start a new family.

**You will need:** A pile of both connecting bricks, e.g. Lego / Duplo and some non-connecting blocks e.g. Jenga blocks.

*This game could be made calmer by sitting at a table within reach of the 2 piles. Or more energetic, by placing the piles at either side of the room and getting the children to run and collect.*

*This section is introductory, so only spend a few minutes on this.*

**You will need:** Bibles / verses printed out, large sheet of paper, pens, male and female play figures, Velcro - e.g. on shoes / book bag.



### Teaching time

#### A Loving God Created Friendship

*"Then the Lord God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper who is right for him...The Lord God used the rib from the man to make a woman. Then the Lord brought the woman to the man.""* **GENESIS 2:18, 22 (ICB)**

We're in the first pages of the Bible. God has created the universe and it is good, but then God spots one problem...

#### Look at the verses together

- What was the one thing that was not good in God's sparkly new world?
- How did God solve this problem?

*Show a male play figure.* In the goodness of God's creation, one thing was not good - for man to be alone. So God made Adam a helper. God created Eve. *Add a female figure.* Another person equally as valuable as Adam - both were made in God's image.

A loving God made us to love other people - we all need to have friends in our lives. Not all friendships last forever but we always need some friends.

continued →



## A Faithful God Created Marriage

***“So a man will leave his father and mother and be united with his wife. And the two people will become one body. The man and his wife were naked, but they were not ashamed.” GENESIS 2:24-25 (ICB)***

Eve wasn't only a friend for Adam. She was made to be something more - Adam's wife. Adam and Eve have the job of helping us understand marriage. Marriage is God's invention, it's the way a new family begins.

Look at the verses together...

- Who is the marriage between?
- What do they become? What do you think that means? *United / one body. In some way, two people become one person when they get married. Marriage is like glue that brings them together for their whole lives.*

In some ways Eve was the same as Adam. But in other ways she was different. How? *It might be awkward talking about the differences between a man and a woman. Be patient with the giggling and silliness. Summarise that men and women are different because of their bodies. That is the only difference that is always true.*

Adam was male, Eve was female. God designed marriage as one man and one woman, promising to stick together for life, through good and bad - just like God sticks with us, no matter what happens.

*Use Velcro strips to illustrate, one side has hooks, the other has loops - together they stick. God has created men and women with different bodies, which fit together like the two sides of Velcro, to show love to one another, sometimes causing a baby. God's design is that this sticking together of bodies should be kept within the sticking together of a marriage. We weren't designed to have lots of different partners, to split up and move on, to keep sticking, unsticking and re-sticking with different people. We were made to love faithfully like God does.*

## Jesus Protects Marriage

***“Jesus answered, “Surely you have read in the Scriptures: When God made the world, ‘he made them male and female.’ And God said, ‘So a man will leave his father and mother and be united with his wife. And the two people will become one body.’ So the two are not two, but one. God joined the two people together. No person should separate them.” MATTHEW 19: 4-6 (ICB)***

Today, people around us will have lots of different opinions about marriage, close relationships and having children.

Which of these have you heard or seen?

- It's just a big party.
- It doesn't matter who the marriage is between - two men, two women - as long as they love each other.
- You don't need to get married to live together.
- You don't need to stay together after you get married.

People asked Jesus questions about divorce - is it OK to split up after you are married? His answer helps us understand some important things about marriage.

continued →



### Look at the verses together...

- What new things does Jesus add to what we have already learnt? *God joined the two people together. No person should separate them.*
- How is this good news for a husband and wife who are married? *If you know your relationship is going to last and can't be separated, it means you feel safe, you can be truly you, making mistakes and being really honest.*

Jesus never married, but he thought marriage should be protected – he said marriage was between one man and one woman and that their joining together by God shouldn't be deliberately split up. Faithfully promising to love one another and keeping your promises is a beautiful picture of how God loves us. You don't need to be married, or have married parents to see that.

Not all marriages are good and not all marriages stay together because people are messy. When marriages split up it is sad and hard. In those sad times, we can remember that God loves us, is faithful to us and will never leave us. He sticks! He holds on, no matter what else changes, we can trust him to love us always.

No matter what a family looks like, we can know for certain that God loves all people and wants them in his family. No one has perfect relationships, exactly as God planned, not even Christians. Lots of people have no idea what God's best way of living is. We need to love them well, and tell them more about God's forever, perfect love for us.




*You could finish by asking the children if they have any questions. You could ask, "Have you seen families that look different to God's best way?"*



### Brain break

#### Matching: Similar But Different!

Place the items on the floor at one end of a room. The children stand in a line at the other end. Child one runs and fetches an item which they show to child two. Child two then has to run and collect the item that matches the first but is different. Child three then runs to collect an item and child four finds the matching but different item. Keep playing until all of the items are paired up. Make sure that you have more items than the number of children, ideally double so everyone gets to do it twice – once finding the first part of a pair and once finding the matching part.

 **Link:** Today we see that marriage is between one man and one woman, both made in God's image but slightly different from each other, so they work together!

**You will need:** A selection of items that are part of a pair but not identical, either physical items or words or pictures on pieces of paper – e.g. knife and fork, brush and comb, right shoe and left shoe, toothbrush and toothpaste, tennis racket and tennis ball.

continued →





## Heart & hands

### Did you spot it?

- How have we seen the Bible describe marriage?
- How is marriage different from friendship?
- What does Jesus say about marriage?

### Work it out

Show the series visual (see p.19). We pick up lots of different messages about marriage and relationships from:

- Ourselves (the thought clouds)
- Others around us (the speech bubbles)
- God (the Bible)

The crown shows that God's messages are most important - great delight comes from listening to him.

Explore the different views of marriage that children will have heard, seen, and felt using the questions below:

- What do you hear other people say about marriage? Do you know some couples who aren't married or some marriages which are not one man and one woman for their whole lifetime?
- Can you explain what God says marriage should be?
- What do you think makes God's plan for marriage really good?

### Live it out

An elderly couple are sitting on a park bench, holding hands and smiling. They are frail and weak. There is a walking stick leaning up against the bench. (We have also provided a Youtube link to a clip from 'Up'. Watching this could be a good alternative to using the image provided - please choose.)

- Is this an example of God's plan for marriage? What makes you say that?
- In the marriage service the husband and wife say this to each other:

I, [name], take you, [name],  
to be my husband/wife;  
for better, for worse,  
for richer, for poorer,  
in sickness and in health,  
till death us do part;  
according to God's holy law.

In the presence of God I make this promise.

What makes you think they have kept this promise?

- If this couple were in your church, what would you like to say to them or ask them?

continued →



We have found that this is where children make the most progress relating the Bible to their everyday lives. Please leave enough time for this section.

These questions can mostly be found on the **Chat Time** (see p.23-24) sheet which has been designed to aid your discussion. If possible, enlarge the page to A3 so you can work on it together. Make sure each child can still answer the personal questions honestly for themselves (e.g. hand out Post-it notes for them to write/draw their answers to these questions).

"Married Life" from Up - we suggest you stop at 2 minutes 45 seconds.



Look at case study picture B (see p.22) of two family pictures. The left picture shows a girl with her parents. The right picture shows the girl, slightly older, with her Dad, his new partner and two other children, a step-brother and a half-brother.

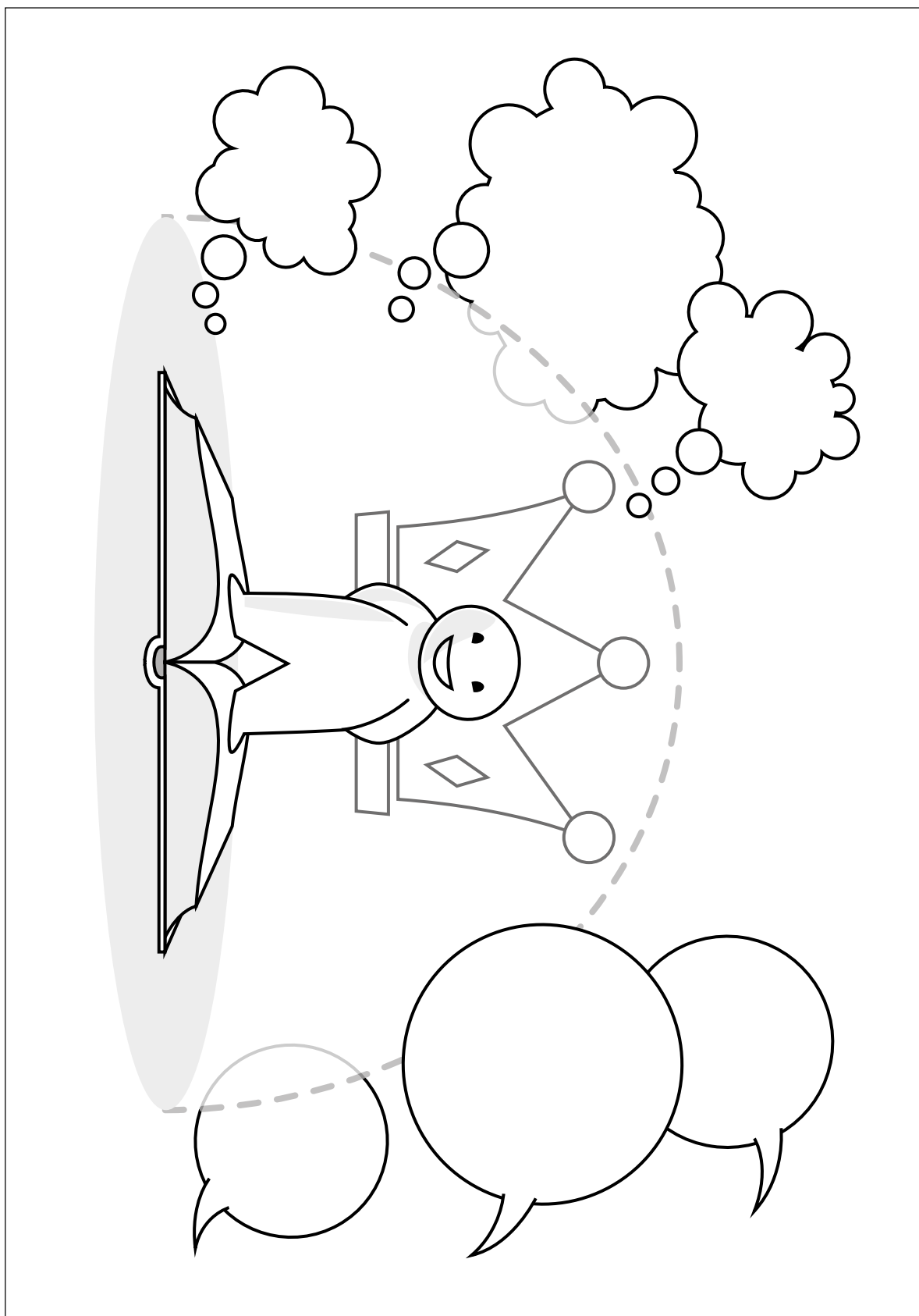


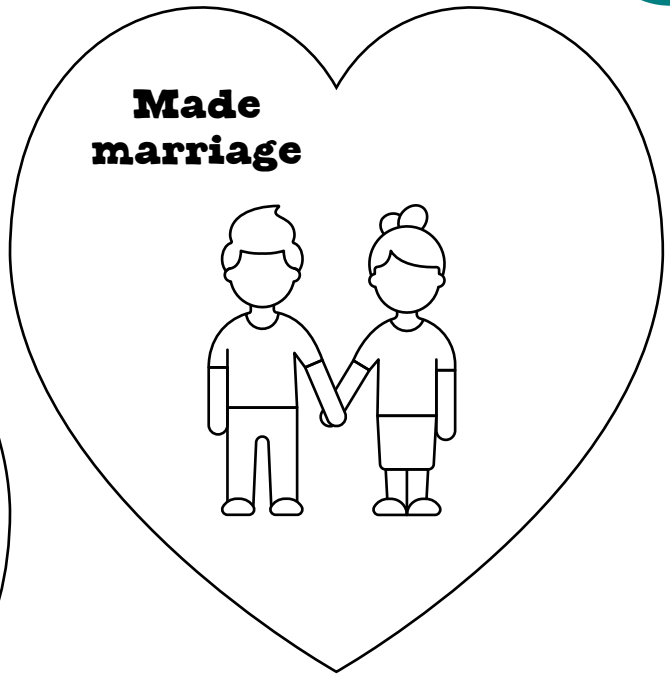
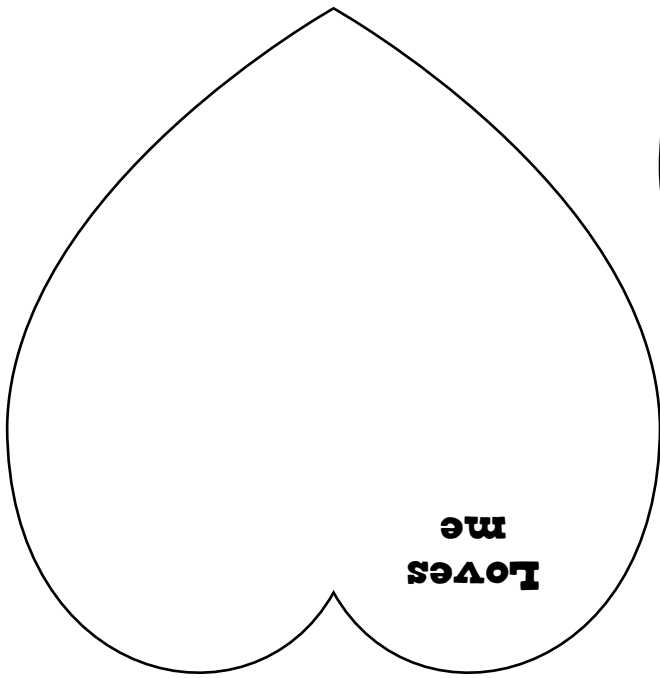
- If these photos were of the family of a friend in your class, what is wonderful about them? What could you thank God for about this family?
- Do you have any questions about this family? Is there anything you would like to understand about it?
- What would you want your friend to know about God's love for them? *We're wanting children to see that whatever the family situation, our greatest prayer is that everyone would know God's love for them and experience his blessing.*

## Prayer

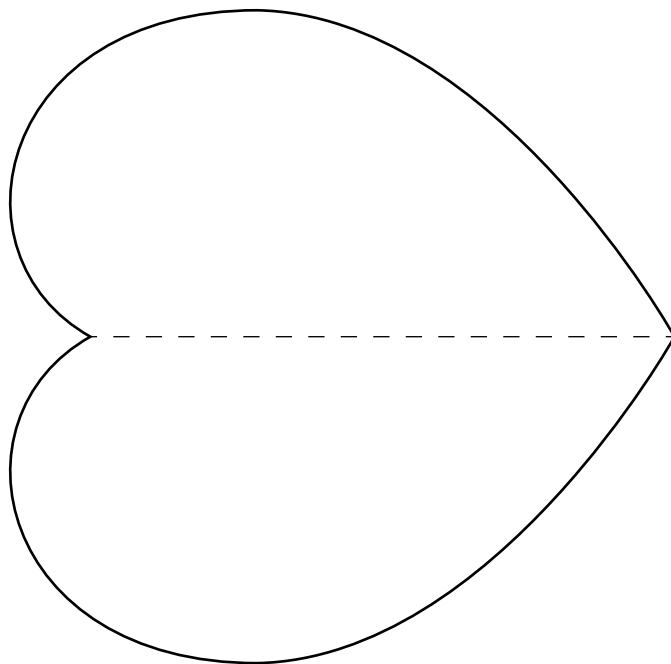
Ask God to help you understand more of his love and faithfulness towards you. Ask him to help you live wisely, trusting his good design and to be someone who can be trusted and faithful in your relationships.

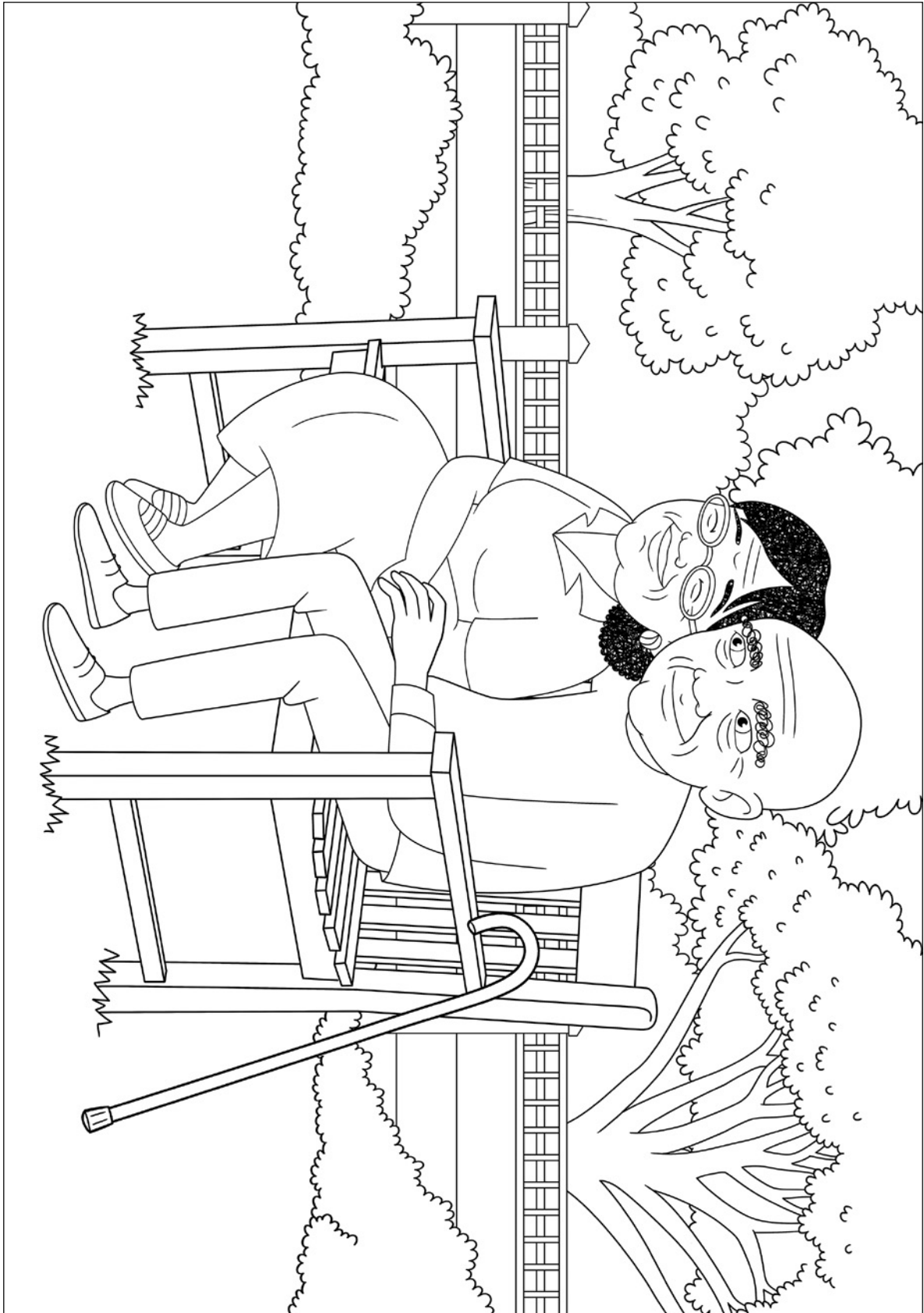


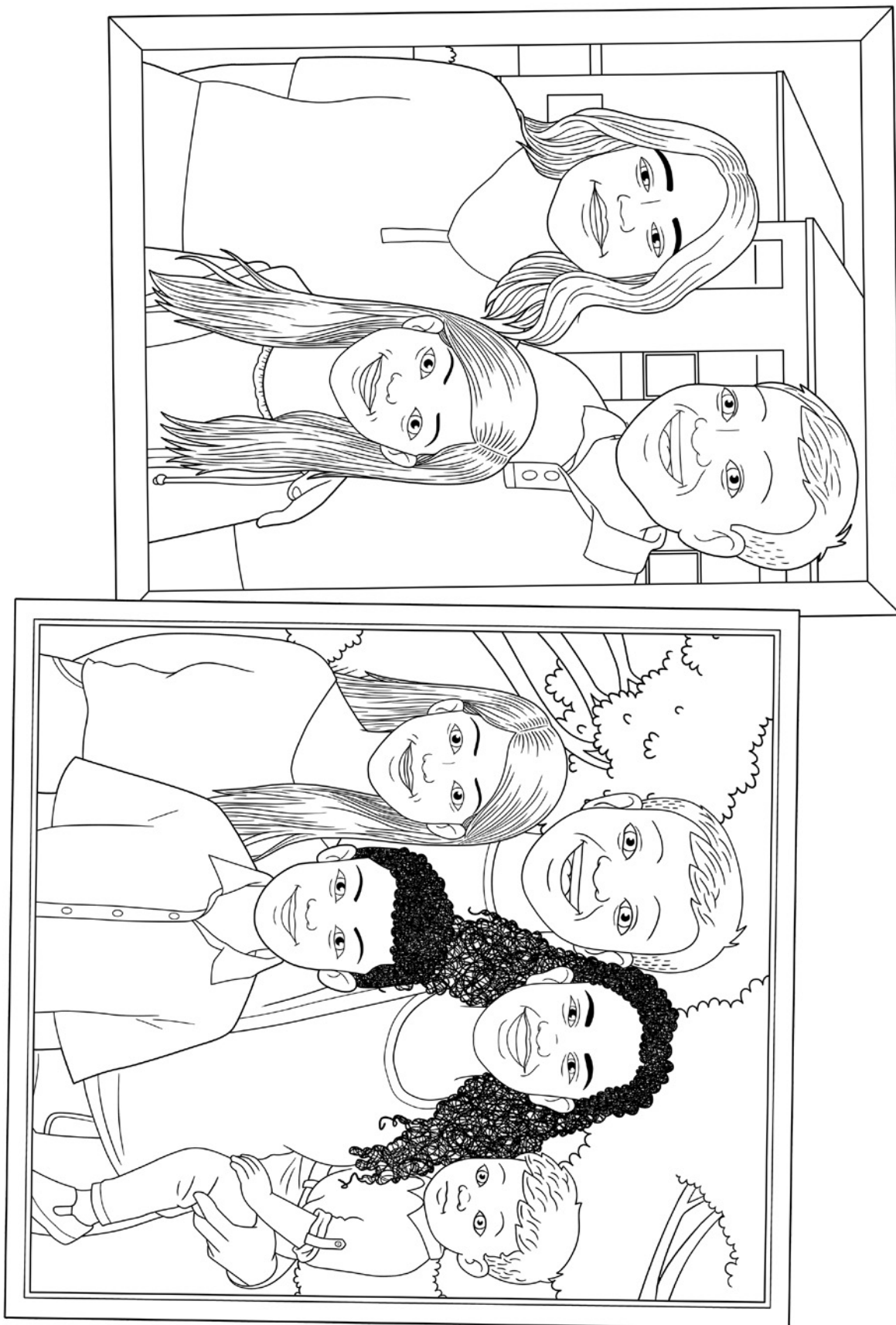




**A loving and faithful God**









# Heart & Hands Chat Time



Genesis 2:18, 24 and Matthew 19:6

Look at these verses together and find the answers

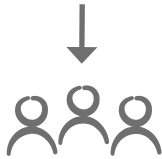


## Did you spot it?



How have we seen the Bible describe marriage?

How is marriage different from friendship?



What does Jesus say about marriage?



## Work it out

Give everyone a chance to answer

What do you think makes God's plan for marriage really good?

What do you hear other people say about marriage?

Can you give a summary of what God says marriage should be?







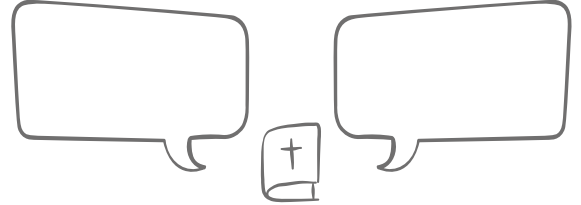
# Heart & Hands Chat Time



**Live it out**

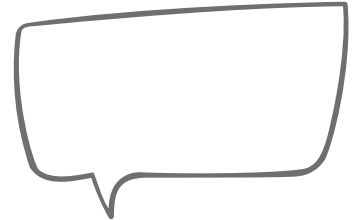


Is this an example of God's plan for marriage?  
What makes you say that?



What makes you think this couple have kept the promises they made to each other in their marriage vows?

If this couple were in your church, what would you like to say to them or ask them?



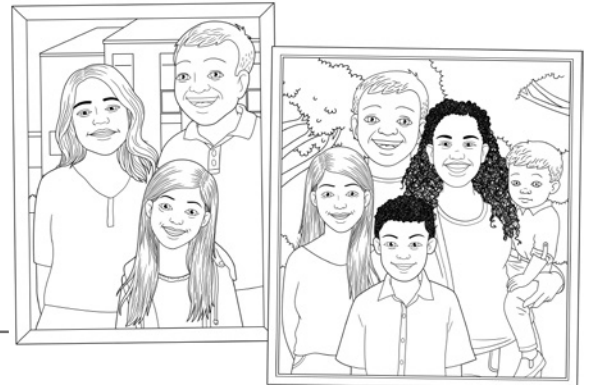
Do you have any questions about this family?

Is there anything you would like to understand about it?



If these photos were of the family of a friend in your class, what is wonderful about it?

What could you thank God for about this family?

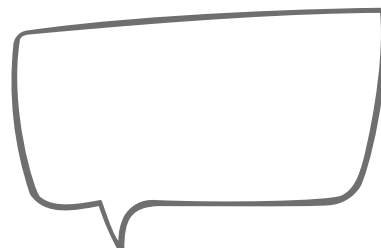


What would you want your friend to know about God's love for them?



Ask God to help you understand more of his love and faithfulness towards you.

Ask him to help you live wisely, trusting his good design and be someone who can be trusted and faithful in your relationships.







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# GROWING

God's  
Good  
Story

Take  
home  
truth

LESSON 4

## I know God's plan for marriage

Genesis 2:18-25 - Matthew 19:4-6

faith **in** kids



## Read and understand

### I know God's plan for marriage

GENESIS 2:18-25, MATTHEW 19:4-6

**TRUTH** = God created marriage between one man and one woman for all of their lives.

**FAITH** = Children who trust God that his plan for marriage is good.

*"That is why a man leaves his father and mother and is united to his wife, and they become one flesh."* GEN 2:24



### God's better story

- God designed marriage – one man, one woman, for a whole lifetime.
- Marriage is the place for sex - God designed a man and a woman to become one flesh, and marriage is the right place for this to happen.
- We might hear different things about who can get married, about divorce and sex. We listen to God, who made us and loves us and wants to protect us.



## Talk together



### 7 and Under

- What does God tell us about marriage? Who is it between? How long does it last?
- How is love in marriage like God's love for us?
- Children don't get married, but they have friends. How can we love our friends like God loves us?



### 8 and Over

The left picture shows a girl with her parents. The right picture shows the girl, slightly older, with her Dad, his new partner and two other children, a step-brother and a half-brother.

- What could you thank God for about this family?
- What would you want the girl to know about God's love for her?

### Note to parents:

We know that many relationships do not follow God's design for marriage – that may be your own experience. We want to hold up the truth and beauty of God's design whilst showing love and compassion to those who experience something different.



## Live it out

God says it is not good for man to be alone. He made us to have relationships. We won't all get married, but we do all need friends. After you have played with friends this week think about:

- What is the same about friendship and marriage?
- What is different?

### Connect to the truth

- God designed marriage - he tells us what it is and how it works.
- Marriage is a little taste of God's love that sticks with us no matter what.

### Pray

Use objects to help you connect with God.

1. BIBLE - Thank God for making marriage. Thank God that it shows his sticking-with-us love. Ask God to help you trust his good plan.
2. FRIENDS - Thank God for your friends. Ask God to help you show his love to your friends.

**Let's be people who thank God for marriage and trust his plan for what marriage is.**



We've got more on this topic on our podcasts. Listen in and carry on the conversation.



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