

MARRIAGE: *Covenant* or *Contract?*

A puzzle of a couple sitting on a rock by a lake. The puzzle is set against a background of a wooden surface. The couple is in the center of the puzzle, with the woman on the left and the man on the right. They are both looking towards each other. The background of the puzzle shows a lake and some trees.

Marriage:

*Finding More of
the Missing Pieces*

Part two of Elim's sermon series on marriage.

MARRIAGE IS A DIVINE COVENANT...

Eph 5.³¹ “For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and they will become one flesh.”³² This is a profound mystery....



MARRIAGE IS A DIVINE COVENANT...

- *This Divine covenant bonds us together.*
- *This bonding together is the result of the creative, imaginative work of God!*
- *Sharing vows ratifies this work!*



...TO WHICH I PLEDGE MY ALLEGIANCE.

- *This pledge is first to God, then to my spouse and then to my community.*
- *This pledge is a promise, not a feeling.*
- *Honoring this pledge will test and change us!*



...TO WHICH I PLEDGE MY ALLEGIANCE.

“Marriage is God’s invention for our good and His glory. Its purpose is to sanctify us. I would not be where I am today as a man following Jesus if it hadn’t been for my marriage. God takes our selfishness in marriage, exposes it, and uses it against us for our own good. The reason you have to finally come to grips with your faults in your marriage is because they are ruining your life!”

Tim Keller



...TO WHICH GOD COMMITS HIMSELF.

- *God enters into partnership with us!*
- *This partnership begins with...*
 - *My commitment to what God wants to do in my life first!*
 - *My commitment to what God wants to do in my spouse's life second!*



...TO WHICH GOD COMMITS HIMSELF.

- *God enters into partnership with us!*
- *This partnership begins with...*
- *God calls us to account (Mal. 2.¹³⁻¹⁵)!*

