

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Principles of Christian Growth

### Section Three: The Results of Christian Growth – How does it bless us?

#### Lesson Three: A godly marriage is a blessing of growth.

Bible Reading: Eph. 5:18-33, Col. 3:12-19, 1 Cor. 11:1-3, 1 Pet. 3:1-7.

Few blessings are greater than the blessing of a happy home in the Lord, and a godly marriage is often an important part of God's design for such a home. Neither our Lord Jesus Christ, nor the apostle Paul, were part of a godly marriage, and Christian singleness is certainly a godly calling that is also a wonderful blessing of Christian growth (1 Cor. 7:25-34). But for those of us whose calling is marriage, the blessedness of our union as husband and wife will depend heavily on our Christlikeness, even though Christ was single.

Discussion questions:

1. The primary passages on godly marriages in the epistles of Paul are Eph. 5:22-33 and Col. 3:18-19. These passages are preceded by paragraphs that emphasize something that is necessary for husbands and wives if they are to have a godly marriage (Eph. 5:18-21, Col. 3:12-17). What does Paul emphasize in those passages? Why is this emphasis necessary to a godly marriage?
2. In what sense must a husband be like Christ (Eph. 5:25-27), and in what sense must a wife be like Christ (1 Cor. 11:3)?
3. Does it always take two godly people to have a godly marriage (1 Pet. 3:1-7, 1 Cor. 7:12-14)? Why or why not?