# Bridegroom Bride

# 新郎与新娘

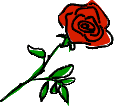
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5. Bridegroom  Bride

新郎与新娘

Love and constant service

爱和始终如一的服侍

The wedding symbolizes the most inspiring commitment one can make in life.  Christ uses the image of the Hebrew wedding not only to remind the Christian to keep purely devoted to Him but also to strengthen her patient longing for His return. Anything that would compromise her dedication to Him must be forsaken in light of Christ’s second return where the promises are fully realized.

婚礼是一个人一生中作出的最令人鼓舞的承诺的象征。基督用希伯来婚礼的比喻，提醒基督徒应保持纯洁，专心事奉主，要加强耐心等待耶稣再次来临。等耶稣再来，所有的承诺将得到兑现。我们必须放弃阻挡我们献身于耶稣的任何事。

Bridegroom Bride

新郎与新娘



爱的希望

We all need and long for love. A love that never ends. This is the reason weddings are such a momentous and joyous occasion. There is a romantic hope that a perfect love between two people will be sealed and protected for life. Up to that time, there is only the hope and expectation. The wedding secures that commitment. The engagement ring speaks of this hope but the wedding ring transfers those expectations into reality.

我们需要爱、渴望得到爱。爱永不止息。这就是为什么婚礼是这样一个重要和快乐的时刻。有一种浪漫的说法：两个人之间完美的爱将会终身被封印和保护，直到那两个人之间只有希望和期待的时候。婚礼破解了这种说法：订婚的戒指讲述了这种希望，而结婚戒指则将这种期待转变为现实。

One moving part of the wedding ceremony occurs when the hand of the bride is placed into the bridegroom’s. Her hope for the future transcends her fear of the new and unknown. She is placing her trust in her husband’s future love and care for her.

婚礼上有个感人的部分，就是新娘将手放在新郎手上的那个动作。她对未来的希望超越了她对未知未来的恐惧。她信任丈夫，相信她的丈夫以后将会爱护照顾她。

The church as Christ’s bride in a similar way is longing for the wedding day when all the hopes and promises become real.  In order to secure her for her own, Christ paid a dowry. It cost Him His life, but He gave of Himself on the cross so she could be His own forever. Now He is preparing a place for her. Jesus says,

*In My Father’s house are many dwelling places; if it were not so, I would have told you; for I go to prepare a place for you. ... I will come again, and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also. (John 14:2-3).*

同样，教会是基督的新娘，期待结婚的日子，期待所有的希望和承诺都变为现实。为了确保她和他的婚礼，基督“下”了聘礼。那就是他的生命。耶稣被钉在十字架上，使她永远成为他的妻子。现在耶稣正为她预备地方。耶稣说：

“在我父的家里，有许多住处。若是没有，我就早已告诉你们了。我去原是为你们预备地方去。我若去为你们预备了地方，就必再来接你们到我那里去，我在哪里，叫你们也在哪里。**”**（约翰福音 14：2-3）



我们的目标

A 爱慕耶稣基督-新郎 → 持续将自己奉献给耶稣

B 耶稣很快再来 → 专心等待耶稣再来

C 保持纯洁 → 步入一个幸福的婚姻

Devotion to the Groom

奉献给新郎

Remain devoted to Christ.

持续奉献给耶稣

The Father arranged a bride for Christ the Son. Christ came and sacrificially secured that bride by laying down His life for her. The church is naturally called to be solely devoted to Jesus Christ who gave His life for her.

天父已经为人子基督安排了一个新娘。基督来到世上，牺牲自己的性命来保护他的新娘。教会自然要完全奉献给耶稣基督，因为是耶稣为我们献出了生命。

1. Affection for Christ

1）爱慕主耶稣

Marital commitment is two way. The groom desires, chooses and makes a life-long commitment to the bride, his wife. She too is won by his attention and love. The bride responds to her husband by saying, *“I am my beloved’s and my beloved is mine” (Song of Solomon 6:3).*

婚姻的承诺是双向。新郎愿意并选择作出终身承诺给新娘——他的妻子。她也一样赢得了他的关注和喜爱。新娘回应她的丈夫说：“我属我的良人，我的良人也属我。”（雅歌 6：3）

Just as a bride is given to her bridegroom, her husband, so has a Christian given himself to Christ when he became a Christian. This love for God and Christ is called our ‘first love.’ It can wear off just like in any romance. The Lord spoke against the church of Ephesus, *“You have left your first love” (Revelation 2:4).* We must  respond to Christ’s constant love by maintaining our loyalty to love Christ and His word.

正如新娘将自己奉献给新郎——她的丈夫，当我们成为一名基督信徒也应该将自己奉献给耶稣基督。对上帝和基督的爱是我们“最初的爱” 。这种爱和任何的爱情不一样，它不会消退。神责备以弗所的教会， “就是你把起初的爱心离弃了。” （启示录2:4 ） 。我们必须回应基督的爱，保持恒定的忠诚热爱基督和他的话语。

1. Attentiveness to Christ and His Work

2）对耶稣和他的教训保持警醒

The devotion of a wife must always translate itself into attentiveness, the ability and willingness to tend to the needs of another.

*Listen, O daughter, give attention and incline your ear; forget your people and your father’s house; then the King will desire your beauty. (Psalm 45:10-11).*

妻子必须时刻警醒，要把对神的爱转化成帮助别人需要的能力和愿望。

“女子阿，你要听，要想，要侧耳而听。不要记念你的民，和你的父家。王就羡慕你的美貌。因为他是你的主。你当敬拜他。”(诗篇 45：10-11)

In the above verse, the bride is given four suggestions for maximizing her marriage. The first three were to call her to take the advice! Underline these three commands. The actual advice (the fourth item) told her to forget her father’s house. She might get  lonely or long for the ‘good old days,’ but then she would be focusing on her own needs rather than her husband’s. Her responsibility now is to serve the needs of her new husband. Below, write down the result of what happens when the bride is rightly focused.

上面的诗句，给了新娘四点建议让她能够最大限度使她婚姻幸福。前三个是劝导她要接受建议！划出这三个命令。实际的建议（第四点）告诉她，要忘记她父亲的房子。开始的时候她可能会孤独或想念那些过去的“好日子” ，但接着她就会侧重于自己的需要，而不是她丈夫的需要。然而她现在真正的责任是服侍丈夫的需要。下面，请写下新娘若有正确的侧重点，结果会是怎样？

RESULT（结果） >\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Reflection: A good Christian friend from another country once visited us during a barbecue with his Christian student group. He was one of the advisors. He asked me, “Why is it that so few people come around and volunteer to help?” There was no easy answer. There were a number of ‘obvious’ needs but no one asked if they could help. They were not focusing on the needs of others. He was just the opposite. He was very attentive to the needs of the church. Wherever there was a need, he would pitch in and help even at great sacrifice of sleep and time.

见证：在一次烧烤会上，一个基督徒好朋友和他的基督徒的学生团体从另一个国家拜访了我们。他是一个顾问。他问我，“为什么这么少人过来帮助我们？ ”这个问题很难回答。这里明显有很都多事需要帮忙，但没有人问是否可以帮忙。这些人不是把重点放在他人的需要。然而他正好相反。他是非常关注教堂的需要。只要有需要，他就会投入，即使是极大地牺牲睡眠和时间。

Application: Can you remember your zeal for the Lord when you first believed? Do you remember talking to others about Christ? Did you spend extra time in His Word? Didn’t you joyfully go out of your way to help others?

[Next ->](http://www.foundationsforfreedom.net/Topics/Disciple/Cross_Training/Bridegroom-Bride/BBB.html)What about now? Pray that the Lord would give you a love that surpasses how you loved Him in the past.

生活应用：你是否还记得你初信时候对神的热情？你是否对别人讲述耶稣？你是否花额外的时间来学习神的话语？你难道不因为能帮助别人感到开心吗？

现在呢？祷告神给你更多的爱吧，让你能比以前更加爱他！

Christ's Soon Return

基督很快再来

Focus on Christ’s return.

关注基督再来

1. The Hebrew Wedding

1) 希伯来婚礼

The Hebrew engagement and wedding was very unlike our weddings today. Once the man got engaged, he would go off and start arranging a place for them to live. She would not see him until he came to get her to bring her to their new home. This would be the wedding day. She never knew when he would come. She and others were held in suspense. She always had to be ready for him. When he came with all his friends, they would feast and he would take her to their new home. Read Jesus’ parable  (Matthew 25:1-13).

希伯来的订婚和婚礼不像我们现在的婚礼。一旦男子订婚，他就离开，并开始准备和新娘未来生活的地方。他们不再相见，直到男子来接这位女子到他们的新住所。那个时候就是结婚的日子。但女子不知道男子什么时候会来的。她和其他人都带着悬念。但她总是要做好准备。当他带着他的所有朋友到来，他们将举行婚宴，然后他将带她到他们的新家园。读耶稣的比喻（马太福音25:1-13 ）

*The kingdom of heaven will be comparable to ten virgins, who took their lamps, and went out to meet the bridegroom. And five of them were foolish, and five were prudent. For when the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, but the prudent took oil in flasks along with their lamps. Now while the bridegroom was delaying, they all got drowsy and began to sleep. But at midnight there was a shout, ‘Behold, the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.’ Then all those virgins rose, and trimmed their lamps. And the foolish said to the prudent, ‘Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.’ But the prudent answered, saying, ‘No, there will not be enough for us and you too; go instead to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.’*

*And while they were going away to make the purchase, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the wedding feast; and the door was shut. And later the other virgins also came, saying, ‘Lord, lord, open up for us.’ But he answered and said, ‘Truly I say to you, I do not know you.’ Be on the alert then, for you do not know the day nor the hour.*

那时，天国好比十个童女，拿着灯，出去迎接新郎。其中有五个是愚拙的。五个是聪明的。愚拙的拿着灯，却不预备油。聪明的拿着灯，又预备油在器皿里。新郎迟延的时候，她们都打盹睡着了。半夜有人喊着说，新郎来了，你们出来迎接他。那些童女就都起来收拾灯。愚拙的对聪明的说，请分点油给我们。因为我们的灯要灭了。聪明的回答说，恐怕不够你我用的。不如你们自己到卖油的那里去买吧。

她们去买的时候，新郎到了。那预备好了的，同他进去坐席。门就关了。其余的童女，随后也来了，说，主阿，主阿，给我们开门。他却回答说，我实在告诉你们，我不认识你们。所以你们要儆醒，因为那日子，那时辰，你们不知道。（马太福音25:1-13 ）

1. Alert & Perseverance

2）警醒与坚韧等待

The point of the above parable is clear. The bridegroom stands for Christ and His final return to take His church, the bride, home with Him. The virgins represent the professing people of God. Some of them were ready for the Bridegroom; others were not. The consequences were serious. Even though the virgins might have been ready and eager at the beginning of the wait for the bridegroom, they needed to be ready for him when he returned.

上述的比喻很清楚。新郎是基督。他最终将回来带走他的教堂，新娘，家园。处女代表信奉上帝的人。其中一些人准备好了迎接新郎，其他则不是。其后果是严重的。尽管处女可能在开始的时候作好准备并热切等待新郎，但是她们更需要在他来的时候做好准备。

We do not know when Christ will return. When He does, that will be the end of things as we know them. Because we do not know when He is coming, then it is easy to be distracted with other less important affairs of this life. But as in the Hebrew wedding, the bride had to be busy, be ready every day for his coming for she simply did not know when her man was coming for her.

我们不知道什么时候耶稣会来。当他来的时候，这将是我们所了解的事情的末了。因为我们不知道他什么时候来，那么我们就很容易为了生活中其它不太重要的事情分心。但是，在希伯来的婚礼，新娘每天都要忙碌地做好准备迎接新郎的到来，因为她根本不知道她的男子什么时候来娶她。

Application: List two things that you would not be doing (but are) if Christ came today and two things you would do (but are not).

生活应用：如果耶稣今天到来，列出两件你本不应该做的却在做的事你和应该做的但没做的两件事！ If Christ returned today,若耶稣今天来临 ，

I would not be doing:我不应该在（做什么）：

I would be doing:我应该在(做什么)：

Keeping Pure

保持圣洁

Prerequisites to having a great marriage.

拥有美好婚姻的前提

Purity during marriage is largely determined by purity before marriage. If compromises occur before the wedding, only with great concerted effort will they be prevented after the wedding. Every effort must be made to keep  sexually and morally pure so that a stable foundation for a loving relationship can be laid rather than one that is ruled by lust. Genuine love demands purity.

婚姻的纯洁很大程度上是由婚前的纯洁所决定的。如果在婚礼前发生问题，只有双方共同作出极大的努力才能阻止婚后的问题。被欲望控制的婚姻是无法长久的。只有尽一切努力保持性和道德的纯洁才能为婚姻奠定一个稳定的基础。真正的爱情要求纯洁性。

1) Before Marriage

1）婚前

Singles must stay pure both sexually and emotionally before marriage. After marriage, their sexual expression will rigorously stay within the confines of marriage. Any compromise of these standards leads to deep marital problems. A bride must keep herself for her groom. A man must only set his affection upon his wife.

*But do not let immorality or any impurity or greed even be named among you, as is proper among saints (Ephesians 5:3).*

单身的人在婚前应当保持身体和情感纯洁。结婚以后，性生活应当严格地保持在婚姻的范围内！任何违反这些标准的行为会导致深刻的婚姻问题。新娘应该只把自己献给她的新郎，而新郎也只将自己的爱给予他的妻子。

至于淫乱，并一切污秽，或是贪婪，在你们中间连提都不可，方合圣徒的体统。（以弗所书 5：3）

2) Courtship and dating

2)恋爱和约会

In order to maintain pure standards, it is important to discuss them. This is hard to do in a dating context. Dating leads to an unsupervised ‘fun’ mentality with those of the opposite gender. This is especially true in a rich and mobile society. “*Now flee from youthful lusts, and pursue righteousness, faith, love and peace, with those who call on the Lord from a pure heart”* (2 Tim. 2:22).

为了维护纯洁的标准，讨论这个话题是很重要的。在恋爱约会期间这可能是一个很棘手的问题。约会使恋爱双方进入一种很难以控制的思想状态。在这个丰富，流动的社会，这种情况尤为突出。你要逃避少年的私欲，同那清心祷告主的人追求公义，信德，仁爱，和平。（提摩太后书 2：22）

Courtship, however, is a long term relationship that has marriage in view. Parents, along with the couple, give permission for the relationship to develop under  clearly established standards. An accountability system is initiated by the father.

然而，恋爱是以结婚为前提的一项长期的关系。在明确界定的标准下，通过家长许可，恋爱双方关系方可以发展。责任制应由父亲制定。

Courtships allow the couple to be together in public situations such as parks, malls and restaurants. They are not allowed to be alone together in private. After this trial time, the couple, with the parents’ blessing can get engaged to be married.

确定了恋爱关系后，双方可一起出现在公共场合，如公园，购物广场，或餐厅。但是他们不可以私下独处。通过这段考验期，双方可在父母的祝福下订婚，并准备结婚。

3) Establishing Standards

3）建立标准

What standards should a couple have before marriage?  We suggest focusing on the inward (what a person thinks and imagines) and outwards standards (what one does with his body or words).

情侣在结婚前应该有什么样的标准呢？我们建议主要注重内在标准（一个人的想法和意念）和外在标准（那个人如何行事和谈吐）。

No matter what we do, we must stay away from sensual entertainment, suggestive pictures and intimate contact. Different cultures might have varying standards but at a minimum we suggest restraint on physical contact such as kissing or touching each other. Let the wedding signify the permission for intimacy.

无论做什么，我们都必须远离肉体的享乐，其他邪念和过分亲密的接触。不同的文化可能有不同的标准，但是我们建议应该克制身体接触，例如亲吻，或触摸对方。让婚礼成为允许亲密接触的象征。



|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 纯洁 | | |
| 恋爱 | 订婚 | 结婚 |

Men are strongly controlled by sight while woman by the need for relationship. Clear standards help each one in his or her weakness so that they can keep each other accountable.

男子很大程度上被感官所控制，而女人则容易被双方关系的需要所控制。清楚的界定能帮助彼此克服点，能够让彼此保持责任感和信任感。

Application 生活应用：

Strive for moral purity. Strong rules help focus on the development of a genuine relationship. If you have compromised in this area, confess your sin, establish clear boundaries and make purity one goal for your life.

争取做一个道德纯洁的人。严格的界定可以帮助双方集中精力发展彼此真诚的关系。如果你违反了这个方面的界定，那么你应该认罪，建立一个明确的标准和界限，让保持纯洁成为你生活的目标。

A Christian, for example, should never develop such a relationship with a non-Christian .

*“Do not be bound together with unbelievers; for what partnership have righteous and lawlessness, or what fellowship has light with darkness? Or what harmony has Christ with Belial, or what has a believer in common with an unbeliever?”* (2 Corinthians 6:14-15).

例如，基督徒，不应该和非基督徒发生这样的关系：“你们和不信的原不相配，不要同负一轭。义和不义有什么相交呢？光明和黑暗有什么相通呢？基督和彼列（彼列就是撒但的别名）有什么相和呢？信主的和不信主的有什么相干呢？”（哥林多后书 6：14-15）



总结

A) The Lord deserves my full-hearted service.

神值得我们全身心地服侍！

B) I will regularly ponder and delight myself in the Lord’s soon return.

我会为神的再来而常常喜乐！

C) I will be sexually pure, both in thought and deed, in and out of marriage. 无论是结婚还是未婚，保持身体，思想的纯洁。



• Memory Verses              Revelation 19:7-8

• 记诵圣经 启示录19：7-8

*Let us rejoice and be glad and give the glory to Him, for the marriage of the Lamb has come and His bride has made herself ready. And it was given to her to clothe herself in fine linen, bright and clean; for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints.*

我们要欢喜快乐，将荣耀归给他。因为羔羊婚娶的时候到了，新妇也自己预备好了。就蒙恩得穿光明洁白的细麻衣，这细麻衣就是圣徒所行的义。（启示录 19：7-8）

• Test of Readiness

• 预备的功课

Only some virgins were ready for Christ’s return. What things do you need to work on so that you are ‘ready’ for His return? Write in your spiritual journal one or two things in each main area of life that you need to be doing to help confirm your readiness for His coming.



只有少数的处女会为耶稣的再来做好准备。你认为你要怎么做才能为耶稣再来做好准备呢？在以下各方面中写下一两个你认为你在为耶稣再来所做的准备：

工作：

家庭：

学习：

人际关系：

服侍：

与神的关系：

• Project Purity

• 纯洁性的规划

There are several different aspects to being pure.  In order to be pure, there must be set standards. Those standards should be clearly defined. They should be of such purity that one is openly able to share them with others. Whether you are married or not, write down in your spiritual journal those inward and outward standards that God would want for you. For example a man should not be alone with a woman in a home. Find at least two friends and discuss what standards they maintain and why.

我们在许多不同的方面必须要保持纯洁。要做纯洁的人，就必须制定标准。这些标准应明确界定。这些纯洁的标准必须可以公开与他人分享。不管你是已婚或未婚，在你的灵性日记写下神想要你做到的内在和外在的标准。例如一个男人不应该单独与一个女人在一个家里。找到至少两个朋友一起讨论他们保持的标准和原因。

These standards should be openly discussed with ones partner and his or her parents. The man should make himself accountable to the parents.

这些标准应当公开与对方，及对方的父母讨论。男人必须让双方的父母感到信任。

Lastly, if there have been compromises in thought or deed, confess these sins, find cleansing through Christ’s blood and a new commitment to those standards. *“Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; and let him return to the Lord, and He will have compassion on him” (Isaiah 55:7).*

最后，如果你在思想和行事上违反了标准，那么你应当承认自己的罪，让耶稣基督的宝血洁净你的罪，以这些标准为目标悔改自己。“恶人当离弃自己的道路。不义的人当除掉自己的意念，归向耶和华，耶和华就必怜恤他，当归向我们的神，因为神必广行赦免。”（以赛亚书 55：7）