

Mary Winkler and Godly Marriages

- Matthew 19:3-6 -

- A. Mary Winkler's killing of her husband has brought about emotions of sympathy and anger.
- B. Her marriage shows how God's plan for marriage from the beginning can be ruined. The events which led Mary Winkler to kill her husband should cause you to ask, what kind of marriage do I have?? Where does it stand with God?

1. _____
- A. Biblical examples of abuse (Pharaoh, **Ex 5**; Saul, **1 Sam 18-26**; Diotrefes, **3 Jn 10**; **Matt 5:20,21**; **Eph 4:30,31**)
 - B. Abuse in marriage (Nabal and Abigail - **1 Sam 25**). Putting away a wife for "*some unseemly thing*" (**Deut 24:1**). Putting away "treacherously" (**Jer 3:20**; **Mal 2:15,16**). "*Love your wives and be not bitter against them..*" (**Col 3:17**).
 - C. Reasons for abuse: Fear of abandonment, pride, jealousy, payback, and pleasure.
 - D. "*Love your wife*" (**Eph 5:25-29**), treat her as you would your own body... "*love your husband*" (**Tit 2:4**)... Jesus died to redeem people from the habit of abuse. **Heb 10:24**.

2. _____, **Not to Win a Fight**
- A. Her battles in marriage led Mrs. Winkler to fight with a gun...
 - B. **Rom 12:10** says "*Be kindly affectioned one to another...*"
 - C. **1 Pet 3:7** says "*giving honor unto the woman...*"
 - D. **Amos 3:3** "*Shall two walk together except they be agreed*" is key to what you need to fight for your marriage – being ONE.
 - E. There are things you must "_____ of your marriage.
 - F. Do not leave the "ring" of your marriage! (_____). It is the worse thing you can do. Bible says leave father and mother, then cleave, not leave, cleave, and leave (**Matt 19:6**)
 - G. Satan is the real enemy of your marriage, not your mate.
 - H. Do not turn _____ your mate, turn _____ your mate (**Eph 4:32**)

3. _____ is the _____
- A. **Gen 2:18** indicates a need for man to communicate.
 - B. **Prov 24:3,4**, knowledge and understanding build a house.
 - C. Communication is defined in **Jas 1:19** - "*Be swift to _____, slow to _____*"
Consider **Prov 1:5**...
 - D. Every successful, godly marriage lives and breathes off of communication...
 - E. The resolution in communication is _____... _____, "*speak the truth*", _____ "*give grace*", _____ "*be kind one to another*"

4. _____
- A. Every marriage is worth saving. God does not want marriages killed, but healed.
 - B. Seek help... Silence damages... You cannot do this without God. Troubled marriages can be godly marriages, if you see you are like "*sheep, gone astray*" (**Isa 53:6**), see redemption in God's word (**Ps 1:1,2**), be responsible for your heart (**Prov 4:23**), cleansed by the Lamb's blood (**1 Jn 1:9**), give every thought to God (**2 Cor 10:5**; **Phil 4:8**), & pray (**1 Thess 5:17**)
 - C. Remember, your marriage is not a promise to not get divorced. It is a promise and covenant to being God's man as a husband and God's woman as a wife.....