

*Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit who gives life has set you free from the law of sin and death.*

**Romans 8:1-2 (NIV)**

*“And we know that God works all things together for the good of those who love Him, who are called according to His purpose.”* **Romans 8:28 (NIV)**

### GOD'S INTENT

*The LORD God said, “It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him.” Now the LORD God had formed out of the ground all the wild animals and all the birds in the sky. He brought them to the man to see what he would name them; and whatever the man called each living creature, that was its name. So the man gave names to all the livestock, the birds in the sky and all the wild animals. But for Adam no suitable helper was found. So the LORD God caused the man to fall into a deep sleep; and while he was sleeping, he took one of the man's ribs and then closed up the place with flesh. Then the LORD God made a woman from the rib he had taken out of the man, and he brought her to the man. The man said, “This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called ‘woman,’ for she was taken out of man.” That is why a man leaves his father and mother and is united to his wife, and they become one flesh. Adam and his wife were both naked, and they felt no shame.* **Genesis 2:18-25**

### GOD'S CONSENT

*Some Pharisees came to him to test him. They asked, “Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife for any and every reason?” “Haven't you read,” he replied, “that at the beginning the Creator ‘made them male and female,’ and said, ‘For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh’? So they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate.” “Why then,” they asked, “did Moses command that a man give his wife a certificate of divorce and send her away?” Jesus replied, “Moses permitted you to divorce your wives because your hearts were hard. But it was not this way from the beginning.”* **Matthew 19:3-8**

*“For I hate divorce,” says the Lord, the God of Israel.* **Malachi 2:16**

## I CAN HAVE AN ALL-IN MARRIAGE WHEN I...

### 1. ABANDON THE EXIT STRATEGY

*But because of the temptation to sexual immorality, each man should have his own wife and each woman her own husband.* **1 Corinthians 7:2**

*Let marriage be held in honor among all, and let the marriage bed be undefiled, for God will judge the sexually immoral and adulterous.* **Hebrews 13:4**

*Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ. Wives, submit yourselves to your own husbands as you do to the LORD. For the husband is the head of the wife as Christ is the head of the church, his body, of which he is the Savior. <sup>24</sup>Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit to their husbands in everything. Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her.* **Ephesians 5:21-25 (NIV)**

### 2. HAVE A COMMITMENT STRATEGY

*I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.* **John 16:33 (NIV)**

*The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.* **John 10:10 (NASB)**

*I do not understand what I do. For what I want to do I do not do, but what I hate I do. For I have the desire to do what is good, but I cannot carry it out. For I do not do the good I want to do, but the evil I do not want to do – this I keep on doing.* **Romans 7:18-19**

### 3. DREAM ABOUT FINISHING TOGETHER

*Write the vision; make it plain on tablets, so he may run who reads it.* **Habakkuk 2:2 (ESV)**

*Where there is no vision the people perish.* **Proverbs 29:18**

*Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.*

**Philippians 3:13-14**