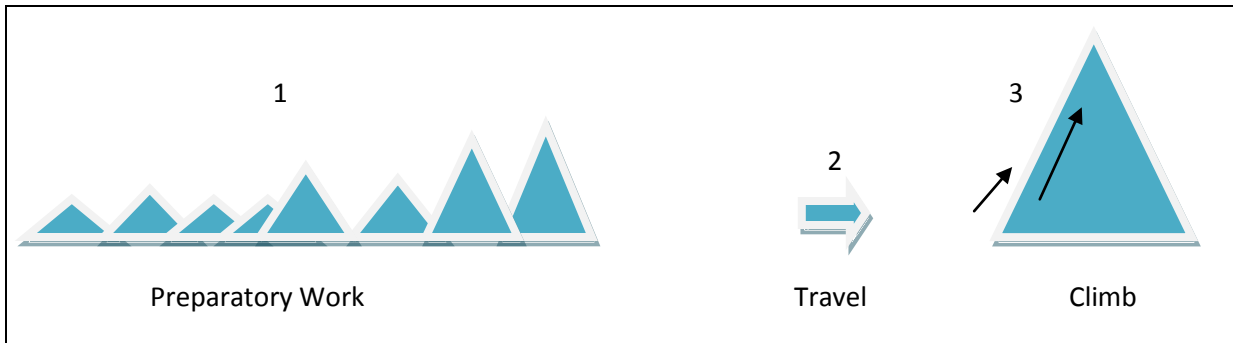


When Adam Met Eve: Dating Preparation



I. Understanding Marriage

a. Goals of marriage

i. Illustration

(Eph 5:22-32 NAS) ²² ^aWives, ^bbe subject to your own husbands, ^cas to the Lord.

²³ For ^athe husband is the head of the wife, as Christ also is the ^bhead of the church, He Himself ^cbeing the Savior of the body.

²⁴ But as the church is subject to Christ, so also the wives *ought to be* to their husbands in everything.

²⁵ ^aHusbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and ^bgave Himself up for her;

²⁶ ^athat He might sanctify her, having ^bcleansed her by the ^cwashing of water with ^dthe word,

²⁷ that He might ^apresent to Himself the church ¹in all her glory, having no spot or wrinkle or any such thing; but that she should be ^bholy and blameless.

²⁸ So husbands ought also to ^alove their own wives as their own bodies. He who loves his own wife loves himself;

²⁹ for no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ also *does* the church,

³⁰ because we are ^amembers of His ^bbody.

³¹ ^aFor this cause a man shall leave his father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife; and the two shall become one flesh.

³² This mystery is great; but I am speaking with reference to Christ and the church.

ii. A place for growth

(Eph 5:22-32 NAS) ²² ^aWives, ^b*be subject* to your own husbands, ^cas to the Lord.

Eph 5:25 Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and ^bgave Himself up for her;

iii. Building up of church and society

b. Blessings of marriage

i. Fellowship, belonging and intimacy

ii. Support , encouragement and mutual serving (5:21)

iii. Children

c. Challenges of marriage

i. Self-loving spouse

ii. Personal failure

iii. Illness and financial difficulties

iv. No children or difficult children

v. Mistreatment from those outside your family

II. Training for Marriage

- a. Align yourself with the will of God**

- b. Mature in unconditional love**

- c. Overcome personal weakness**

- d. Work to correct your circumstances if able**

- e. Accept the circumstances that you are not able to change**