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BIBLE ADVENTURES SCRIPT:

A1994 ~ Jesus Writes in the Sand.

Welcome to Bible Adventures. Help for today. Hope for tomorrow. Jesus is Lord of all.

When God introduced Eve, the first woman, to Adam, the first man, as Adam's wife in the Garden of Eden, the pattern for society was then set. Marriage between a man and a woman, for love and companionship and to nurture their resulting children, became the established, correct way for God's people to live.

Although Adam and Eve's later sin of disobedience created many unpleasant consequences to every part of life, marriage between a husband and wife has been the family structure that tribes and nations have been founded on over all generations thereafter.

God honours marriage. Its purpose is to reflect God's oneness and closeness between God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit, or Trinity. Marriage on earth encourages commitment, companionship, honour and love between a man and a woman. God has designed marriage to meet the needs of two differently-made people for happiness and shared intimacy in love, to produce children and remain faithful to one another for a lifetime. When animals mate, they will mate with any from the opposite sex from their own species. But God intended human beings, who He made in His own likeness, to be safe and cared for in a mutually-exclusive relationship. All other possible partners are rejected at the time that the marriage vows are expressed.

When God gave Moses His laws to teach to the Israelite people, the rules for marriage and family relationships were recorded in Leviticus, Chapters 19 and 20. To discourage immoral behaviour, a man who slept with someone other than his own wife was to be put to death and the offending woman also. This seems to be a harsh punishment for violating the marriage relationship, but it shows the value God has placed on what He has created.

In today's Bible Adventure, the Pharisees were trying to trap Jesus again.

DRAMA - [The Bible In Living Sound](#).

This trap the Pharisees set up to test Jesus came about the day after life returned to normal following the Feast of Tabernacles, as recorded in John, Chapter 8.

Prostitution has long been a part of the ways of evil people who disregard God's holy and right way of living. In Leviticus, Chapter 19, God told Moses to teach the Israelite people not to disgrace their daughters by making them into temple prostitutes. This is the practice that the Canaanites did in their temples in a mistaken belief that in response, their gods would give them fertile lands and herds. God warned Moses to tell the Israelites who would soon enter the Canaan land that, if the people practised prostitution there, they would soon turn to other gods and the land would become full of immorality.

In Proverbs, chapters 5, 6 and 7, there are warnings for men not to be lured into sexual sins with harlots or other men's wives. In Australia at present, there is a man in jail accused of killing his wife. His secret of having affairs with three other women at the same time has now become public knowledge. He had promised his main mistress that he would soon be free of his wife so he could be with her. This man betrayed his wife by his actions. Soon after his arrest, the main mistress also betrayed him, by giving a statement to the police to avoid being an accomplice to the wife's murder. The end result now is a lengthy jail term for the man and no mother or father for his three young daughters. What a tragic result from his unfaithfulness!

When the Pharisees dragged the woman guilty of adultery before Jesus and accused her of a deed that carried the death penalty, Jesus didn't at first answer her accusers. We're not told what He wrote in the sand but when pressed for an answer, Jesus said: "He who is without sin among you may throw the first stone at her." Then He went on writing further. The woman's accusers were convicted of their own sins in their hearts and one by one, from the oldest to the youngest, left the scene without saying any more. Jesus then forgave the woman of her many sins and told her to stop her old ways and turn to God.

Jesus took the teaching about wrongful sexual relationships to a higher level in Matthew, Chapter 5. He said that more than just the sin of adultery, whoever looks at a woman and wants to possess her in his mind is guilty of committing adultery with her in his heart. For this reason, women are encouraged to dress modestly so they don't cause someone else to sin over their bodies. Men should also understand that it is very important not to view pictures of undressed women that may be hung on the workplace or toilet wall. Pornography is evil and addictive. It boosts a man's sexual desires far beyond what is wholesome, to the extent that the man's desires control him to take the place of God.

In Malachi, Chapter 2, it is recorded that God's people had become unfaithful to Him. They had married women who worshipped foreign gods in other countries. God refused to accept their offerings at the Temple and this upset the people. What was the reason? The prophet Malachi said that it was because God knew that the men had broken their promises to the wives that they had married when they were young. He said: "She was your partner and you have broken your promise to her, although you promised before God that you would be faithful to her. Didn't God make you one body and spirit with her? What was the purpose in this? It was that you should have children who are truly God's people."

Satan is known in Scripture as the accuser of the believers in Christ. When the Pharisees and rulers made accusations against the adulterous woman before Jesus, Satan was the one speaking their accusations through their mouths. Believers in Christ can also do the same if they are not careful about what they say. We mustn't give Satan any foothold in our lives by judging others and testing God.

The Apostle Paul warned that believers in Christ not to marry unbelievers, as recorded in 2 Corinthians, Chapter 6. If a couple gets married while both were unbelievers yet later, one came to Christ, then the other person was not duty-bound to stay in the relationship. In 1 Corinthians, Chapter 7, Paul said that the new convert to Christ had to willingly live with the unbeliever if the unbeliever didn't want to leave.

A writer once said: "The simplest prescription for a good marriage contains only two points:

1. Walking with the Master as in 1 John 1 which says: "But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another."
2. Work on the marriage – Colossians Chapter 3 says: "Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart." Couples who do not expect to work on their relationship often have the roughest ride on the pot-holed, back roads of matrimony.

The way to avoid such difficulties in the adjustment of being husband and wife is to pray together every day, asking the Lord to keep both in the way of grace. It's also good for each to be willing to face the weaknesses in themselves and ask the other, "Is there something that I do that annoys you?" When the answer is given truthfully and in love, it is a small matter for love to remove the annoyance.

Jesus said in John, Chapter 15, Verse 12: "This is My commandment that you love one another as I have loved you." This verse applies to marriages every step of the way.

The drama is from The Bible In Living Sound.

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