

# Strike the Original Match

## In Defense of Monogamy

GENESIS 1:26–28; 2:24–25; MATTHEW 19:3–6



### The Heart of the Matter

The air today is filled with the shrill cry of “my rights.” In the center ring of this loud arena is the home—more specifically, the marriage bond. Mate-swapping, group marriages, and living together without official marriage commitments are realities no longer carried out under the hush-hush blanket of shame and disgrace. Some couples are even accepting practices that just a couple of decades ago were taboo, introducing infidelity and pornography into the marriage bed. In all these alternative lifestyles, the Bible is either ignored altogether or rationalized to extremes. Is monogamy an outdated concept? In this message, we look at what the Bible says about the value of a one-spouse-only relationship so that we might uphold and defend God’s design.



### Discovering the Way

#### 1. Some Initial Terms to Clarify

Before we can defend monogamy, we must understand the meaning of three key terms: *monogamy*, *commitment*, and *accountability*.

#### 2. A Study of the Monogamy-Polygamy Conflict

The Bible records the reality of polygamy without a justification of the practice. And while polygamy is never directly condemned, the Bible makes clear its consequences.

#### 3. Back to the Basics of Monogamy

Two realities form the backbone of monogamy. In the context of creation, God uncovered a need—loneliness. And in the context of need, God provided a solution—the woman.

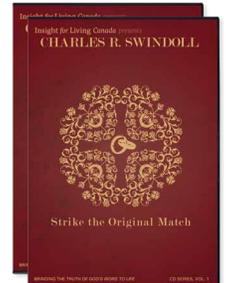


### Starting Your Journey

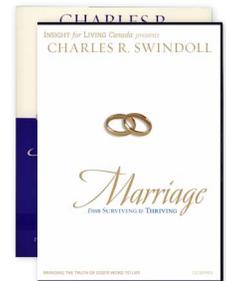
As you reflect on the value of monogamy, remember to ask the Lord to give you the wisdom of grace. And if you are in disobedience? Give serious consideration to change.



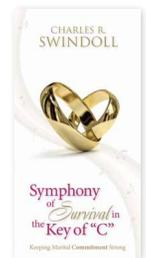
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