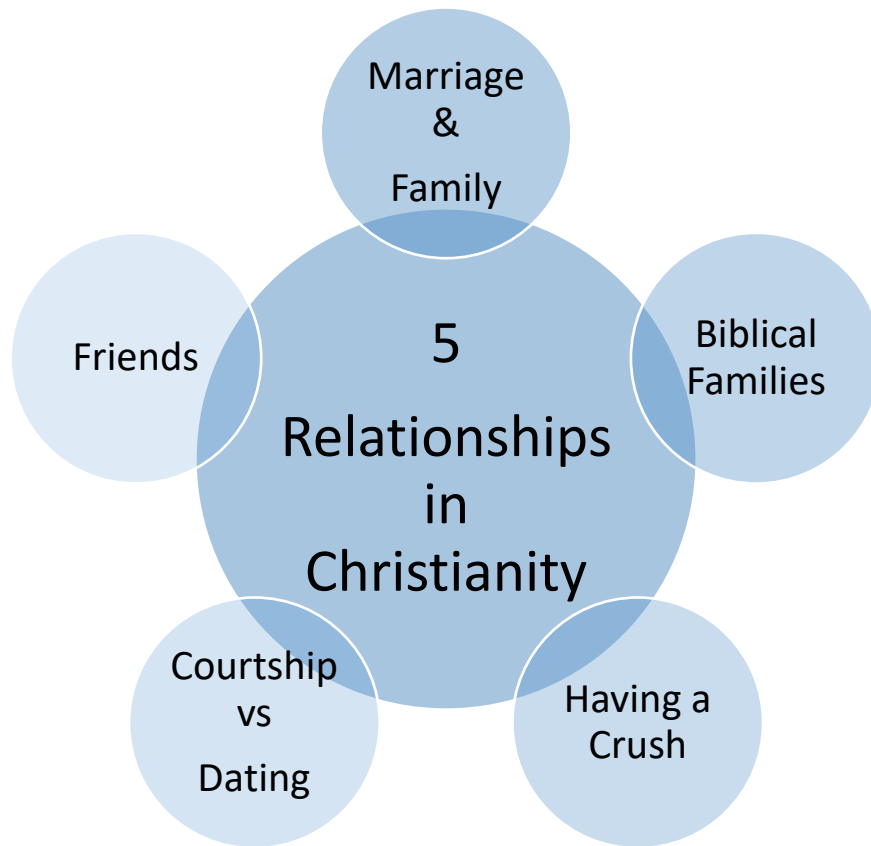




CSE TEAM

MAY 1, 2022



Lesson 5

Relationships in Christianity – Grade 1-3

	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3
5A: Marriage & family	Major	Minor	Minor
5B: Biblical Families	Minor	Minor	Major
5C: Friends	Minor	Major	Minor
5E: Having a crush	Minor	Minor	Major

- 5A: Marriage & family

What is family?

The Christian family consists of one husband and one wife, like mom (female) and dad (male) who are united by God for their entire lives. The day they get married, husband and wife live together and build their family and may have children like you.

They get married in the church where the priest performs the Marriage Sacrament. God planned for married people to always be married, and commit themselves to each other. It is a lifelong commitment, because God wanted married people to enjoy living with each other for life.

“So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. Then God blessed them, and God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth” (Genesis 1:27-28)

God’s plan for the family to be a husband and a wife and they may have children and be happy.

When we play as a family, we have lots of fun, when we pray together God blesses our family and keeps us together.

[Teacher may ask the children how family members should treat each other?]

How should we treat our family members?

How do we talk to each other? Tone?

Do we remember to say encouraging words?

Do we check on each other? Do we ask how the day was?

Do we help each other at home?

My parents are always there for me out of love, they do not get paid or gain anything for taking care of me. It is just their love!

Objective → To understand the basics of Christian family.

- 5B: Biblical Families

[Teacher may ask children to talk about family members in the Old Testament?]

Can you think of examples of families in the Bible? How many people are in Noah’s family? And who entered the ark? Why did God ask Noah to take two of each kind?

To have more animals ... to have a lion cub, a male lion and female lion need to be together.

You cannot have a male elephant and female elephant give birth to a giraffe!

And after the flood God made a rainbow to show in the sky as a reminder to His promise that He will never flood the earth again.

What other families in the bible?

Which family follows God's plan?



What is
different
here?

Some people choose not to follow Christ and choose to have a family that lives outside God's plan for marriage between a husband (male) and a wife (female).

Christians understand God's plan through the Bible, for marriage to be between a man and a woman. We treat everyone the same way and it is not our place to judge their choices and different beliefs.

God chose my gender, both genders are valued the same way before God but are not identical.

Question: If a boy wears a princess' dress, would that make him a girl?

Answer: No, clothing does not change who we are. Being a boy or a girl is already gifted by God and clothing does not change who we are.

Question: My school is having a day where girls can dress up as men clothes and boys dress up as women. For example, a boy wears a dress and say he is a girl. Is that part of God's truth and guidance, is that ok ?

Answer: God explains to us in the Bible, that it is not part of His guidance and not what we believe, so it is not okay instead we should respect who we are and who God made us to be, we are made in the image of God.

Clothing will not change my gender that God created me with.

For servants only, the correct meaning of the following verse is for people who purposely dress in opposite sex to attract or promote the same sex attraction.

“A woman shall not wear anything that pertains to a man, nor shall a man put on a woman’s garment, for all who do so are an abomination to the Lord your God.” (Deuteronomy 22:5)

However, we should continue to discourage kids from dressing opposite to their gender as this creates useless confusion and promotes the ongoing flood of gender fluidity.

Objectives → To understand that every newborn comes from a mom (Female) and a dad (Male). God’s plan for family a husband and wife united with Him through holy matrimony in the sacrament of marriage.

- 5B: Friends

It is good to have friends. Being a friend to someone means you care about them, you be kind to them and help them when they need you.

A great example for friendship in the Bible is David and Jonathan “the soul of Jonathan was knit to the soul of David, and Jonathan loved him as his own soul” (1 Samuel 18:1). King Saul the father of Jonathan wanted to hurt David and David did not do anything wrong.

Jonathan helped him as he was a true loving friend.

What makes someone a good friend?

(The story of David and Jonathan teaches us - 1 Samuel 18)

A Godly person is someone who chooses God’s way in everything.

Respects my boundaries.

Loving

Caring

Values me

Helps me be a better Christian.

“Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their labor. For if they fall, one will lift up his companion” (Ecclesiastes 4:9-12)

Objectives → To understand the basics of friendship and how to choose a friend.

- 5D: Having a Crush (on someone)

Did anyone hear the word crush before?

Not this kind of crush

Sometimes a boy may like a certain girl or a girl like a particular boy, those feelings may continue for days or weeks. But it really goes away fast, so it is better not to talk about it with other kids. Why?

Because other kids may make fun of it or tell everyone about it. Those feelings are normal and it is good to talk about it with your mom or dad. That’s why God created Adam and Eve as adults.

Objectives → To understand that admiration feelings are normal, however they change and are temporary and to learn to discuss it with a trustworthy adult.



Relationships in Christianity – Grade 4-6

	Grade 4	Grade 5	Grade6
5A: Marriage & family	Major	Minor	Major
5B: Biblical Families	Major	Major	Major
5C: Friends	Minor	Major	Minor
5D: Having a crush	Minor	Minor	Minor
5E: Dating	Minor	Minor	Major

- 5A: Marriage & family
What is marriage called in our church? Holy Matrimony (One of the Holy seven Sacraments).
What happens during the Holy Matrimony prayer?
Elaborate on the different parts of the ceremony: Prayers, Hymns, Rings, Crowns, Holy oil. At the end, the Holy spirit unites both. They grow spiritually together, face trials together and carry the cross together. The unity with God helps the spouses to fight outside temptations with God's grace.

- ***Why are the wedding rings put in a red ribbon during the prayer?***
Red symbolizes the blood of Jesus Christ. The wedding rings are tied in the red ribbon to symbolize the unity of husband and wife with Christ, who is the third partner in marriage relationship.
- ***Why does the priest put crowns on the bride and groom heads?***
To remind them with their heavenly crown, not just the earthly crown. These crowns are for carrying the cross during the marriage life journey.
- ***Why do you think the priest anoints the bride and groom with the Holy oil?***
For blessing, health, spiritual protection, and eternal salvation.

Cultural view

- ***Why do you think the husband and wife wear their rings on the left hand?***
The left side is closer to the heart, so it represents their love for one another.

From Coptic Orthodox church marriage ceremony admonition:

The groom stands before the altar and accepts the command from the priest "Today, you are responsible for her instead of her parent" ...and much more...

The bride stands before the altar and the command from the priest "So you are required to honor and respect him, do not act against his opinion" ...and much more...

That is real Christian marriage, the husband always seeking satisfaction to his wife and the wife always seeking satisfaction to her husband.

When a spouse thinks how to satisfy themselves, they are deviated from the church teachings.

Objectives → To understand the core meaning of Christian marriage.

- 5B: Examples of Biblical Families
[Teacher may ask children to talk about family members in the Old Testament?]
How many people were in Noah's family?
And who entered the arc?

I have set My **RAINBOW** in the cloud, and it shall be a sign of a covenant between Me and the earth. When I bring a cloud over the earth, the **RAINBOW** will be seen in the cloud; then I will remember My covenant, which is between Me and you and every living creature of all flesh, and the waters will never again become a flood to destroy all flesh.



Genesis 9:13-15



Why did God ask Noah to take two of each kind?

To have more animals ... to have a lion cub, a male lion and female lion need to be together. You cannot have a male elephant and female elephant give birth to a giraffe!

And after the flood God made a rainbow to show in the sky as a sign to remind us of His promise that He will never flood the earth again.

What other families in the bible?



Roles and responsibilities

God created man and woman different in their shape, their body and in their way of thinking.

If you want to go shopping for some cool new clothes, would you pick mom or dad?

If you want to play with a drone or remote-control car outside or build a cool car model, would you pick mom or dad?

If, for something so simple, mom and dad can help differently, imagine all the important family decisions, duties, and responsibilities. God created dad and mom to always complete each other.

If we see others not following God's plan, we treat them kindly, just the same as others, we do not judge them, and we always remember them in our prayers...but we follow God's plan.

And let's always focus on our own family, thank God for our mom and dad and we do our part in the family.

Dad and mom are like puzzle pieces. They are different in shape, but they fit together, and the picture wouldn't be complete with a missing piece. When the husband and wife are both humble

before God, God will put their life puzzle pieces together and let them be the perfect representation of Himself.

God chose my gender, both genders are the same before God but not identical.

Question: If a boy wears a princess' dress, would that make him a girl?

Answer: No! Even if a boy dresses like a girl he cannot change to be a girl or if he says, "I'm a girl". Also, a girl cannot change to be a boy even if she dresses up like a boy or says, "I'm a boy". Our gender is a gift from God.

Question: My school is having a day where girls can dress up as men clothes and boys dress up as women. For example, a boy wears a dress and say he is a girl. Is that ok?

Answer: God communicated to us in the Bible, that it is not okay. "A woman shall not wear anything that pertains to a man, nor shall a man put on a woman's garment, for all who do so are an abomination to the Lord your God." (Deuteronomy 22:5)

If the children asked the below question, here is how a good answer could be

Question: Can there be a human who is not really a boy or a girl?

Answer: This is very, very rare. It would be physical disorder since birth, similar to a baby born without a leg or a foot with extra toes.

What is different here?

Some people choose not to follow Christ and chose to be live outside God's plan for marriage.

Christians understand God's plan through the Bible, for marriage to be between a man and a woman. We respect, show love and we pray for them that they know the truth too.

Objectives → Get the children to realize a male/female combination is a must for reproduction and set their minds on Bible teaching pertaining gender.

- 5C: Friends

A relationship involves a connection between people and although we meet many people in our daily lives **only a few encounters will result in relationships or friendships**. Some people have many relationships, a wide circle of friends and acquaintances, and others prefer only a few close friends.

Healthy friendship will give:

- o Love
- o Companionship
- o Good Listener
- o Caring
- o Kindness
- o Wants the best for you
- o Helpful
- o You feel safe when you are with them
- o Shares your values
- o Sharing hopes, dreams, problems
- o Someone to have fun with
- o Someone is there for you
- o Helps you to be better
- o Helps you to be closer to God

Friendships can bring us closer to God or take us further away from God.

If you felt any of the feelings listed below, you should consider leaving this friendship.

Unhealthy friendship:

- No trust
- No respect
- Jealousy
- Poor Communication
- Power Issues
- Unfair arguments
- Tries to change you against your will
- Lies
- Coercion
- Manipulation
- Lack of understanding
- No fun
- Blaming
- Fear
- Feel like you cannot be yourself
- Always want you to do things for them.

Objective → Get the children to know how to choose a friend.

- 5D: Having a Crush

A crush is a word used to describe a temporary feeling you have for another person at this age, crush feelings will change over time. It is immature and temporary feelings.

Everyone may feel different, it is good idea to talk about it with trustworthy to clarify.

Feelings towards the opposite sex may arise but we must wait for God's perfect timing when we are mature enough to make life decisions, especially marriage. This is different from liking a friend.

Objective → Get the children to know that admiration feelings are normal, however they do change and learn to discuss it with a trust adult.

- 5E: Dating

Dating relation is different than other relations because it is more special and private relation, not inside the group but rather separate in a one to one setting. The holy bible tells us that any private relation between a man and a woman must be only in marriage. This is how God designed this private relation to be successful on physical, emotional, and spiritual levels. God designed the relation between the man and the woman as BONDING and UNBREAKABLE relation.

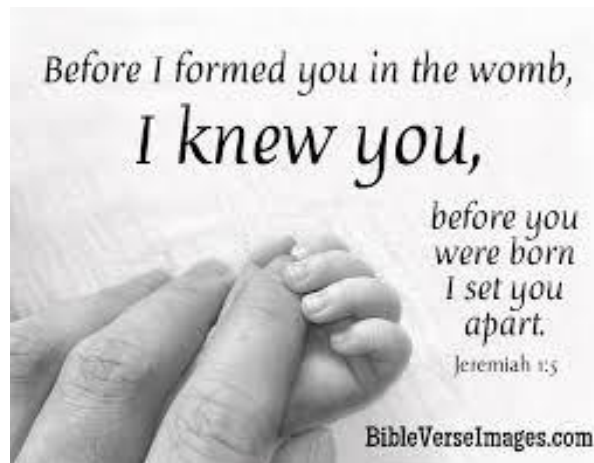
"He answered, 'Have you not read that he who made them from the beginning made them male and female,' and said, 'For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one'? So then, they are no longer two but one flesh. Therefore, what God has joined together, let not man separate." (Matthew 19:4-6)

Because of the continuous mental, emotional, physical, and spiritual changes happening to us during puberty. It will not be a stable relationship. And that is the reason God created Adam and Eve already mature adults as role model for his design of marriage.

"Flee also youthful lusts; but pursue righteousness, faith, love, peace with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart." (2 Timothy 2:22)

Premature dating affects our ability to commit to true friendships which could last for a lifetime and can give us support in life as we grow together.

Objective → Get the children to know and have some understanding that dating is not something they want to be involved with in this age.



Relationships in Christianity – Grade 7-9

	Grade 7	Grade 8	Grade 9
5A: Marriage & family	Major	Major	Minor
5B: Friends	Minor	Major	Minor
5C: Courtship vs Dating	Minor	Minor	Major

- 5A: Marriage & family

What is the difference between infatuation and love?

Infatuation is extreme hyperactivity, sleeplessness, impulsivity, euphoria, and mood-swings

- Fixation on winning the other
- Relational passion, heightened feeling and emotions
- Emotional dependance on the relationship
- Obsessive
- Intense sexual desire
- Extreme possessiveness

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IKG-3nAUQkY>

What would be the end result of this type of relationship?**What is Christian marriage/ love?**

- Christ is the centre, not the relationship
- Unconditional
- Sacrificial
- Confident in the love (Secure attachment)
- Unified
- Between two mature adults
- A covenant
- Forgiving

1 Cor 13**What would be the end result of this type of relationship?****What is the Christian Design of Marriage?**

- God designed marriage as a relationship between one man and one woman
This means that it must be heterosexual and monogamous
- Lasts for their lifetime
- Marriage is beautiful and the feelings associated are holy
- God's purpose for sex in marriage is to help the couple grow in oneness and intimacy, gives them pleasure and satisfaction, and allows them to procreate
- "Wives, submit 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. 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 to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless. In this same way, husbands ought to love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself." Ephesians 5: 22-28

What are the consequences of sexual immorality?

- Sinning against the Lord and perversion from His holy commandments, which ruins our relationship with Christ
- Destruction to oneself (1 Cor 6:18; Proverbs 6:32)
- Any relationship or sexual intimacy outside of this plan is sexual immorality and a sin
- “Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor sodomites, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God.” 1 Corinthians 6:9-10
- Sexual immorality includes fornication, adultery, pornography, masturbation, accepting unclean thoughts, and homosexuality.
- God’s plan for marriage is the creation of an UNBREAKABLE BOND
- “And He answered and said to them, ‘Have you not read that He who made them at the beginning made them male and female, and said ‘for this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh?’” Matthew 19:4-5
- In a real Christian marriage, the husband always seeks his wife’s contentment and the wife always seeks her husband’s contentment.
- When a spouse thinks how to fulfill themselves only, they deviate from the church’s teachings.

How do I find the one?

- God is the One – He is the ultimate relationship to seek and He will guide you with your spouse (“the two”) in the right time
- “My God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus” Philippians 4:19
- Trust in God to give you the greatest gift
- Raise the bar – maintain your standards, values, and boundaries
- “Do not be unequally yoked together with unbelievers. For what fellowship has righteousness with lawlessness? And what communion has light with darkness?” 2 Corinthians 6:14

Note to servants: Be sure to explain the importance of marrying a Christian for how can you maintain a relationship with Christ when married to an unbeliever? (Ex. Samson and Delilah - Judges 16)

Recently, same-sex marriage has become allowed by law. Does this mean it’s ok?

- Christian marriage is the union of husband and wife (It is sacred and a covenant).
- Outside the union of husband and wife, the relationship is a sin regardless of what that relationship looks like (ie. Homosexual, premarital, etc.)
- As Christians, we are called to love everyone, but follow only God’s truth

Objectives → To understand Christian marriage. Check Appendix A – 5A Fireplace and triangle of marriage.

- 5B: Friends

“A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for adversity.” Proverbs 17:17

People were created to be social, which means they need others they trust in their lives

Friendship is a domain for cooperation in school life, social life, and overcoming the problems of everyday life.

What is friendship?

A relationship between two people based on shared values, and mutual trust and support.

A good friend should:

- Show respect
- Endure others' weaknesses, as God endures our weaknesses
- Avoid speaking behind a friend's back
- Share in the joys and hard times
- Be compatible (share values and interests)
- Committed (loyalty regardless of circumstances)
- Caring and compassionate
- Help friends become better versions of themselves.

Whom should I choose as a friend?

- Those with whom you feel a spiritual, psychological, and social comfort
- Those who can show empathy and compassion
- Those of good moral character
- They don't show indifference, and they don't use or encourage impure words, jokes, or behaviors
- Those who can motivate and encourage you to become better
- Those who share similar values, beliefs, and interests

How can I be a good friend?

- Show you care.
- Smile.
- Be a good listener and give people opportunities to talk about themselves.
- Show respect and appreciation.
- Talk about common interests.
- Offer support and express empathy.
- Be trustworthy and don't share the secrets of others.
- Be honest.

Objectives → To know what to look for in a friendship.

- 5C: Courtship vs Dating

Courting	Dating
Courting is a relationship between a man and a woman wherein they get to know each other and develop their relationship before getting married.	Dating is a modern-day relationship trend, a stage where the couples meet socially or regularly to see if they stand a chance to be around each other
Courtship is like a promise to make a commitment to marriage.	Dating does not account for readiness of marriage with no long-term commitment
Courting preserves sexual contact for marriage only.	Sexual intimacy is very common in the modern-day dating culture.
Courting cultivates a deep sense of emotional closeness between the couple.	Dating a form of courtship but without the emotional part.
Courting seeks accountability of parents or mentors under the protection of God.	There is little or no accountability with family in a dating relationship.

Ref: <http://www.differencebetween.net/language/words-language/difference-between-courting-and-dating/>

Why it is not wise to have romantic relationship as a teen?

- A teen body, especially the brain, is not mature yet.
 - ❖ The brain actually matures at the age of 25 (scientifically)
 - ❖ Before that age, an individual goes through many psychosocial, biological, and spiritual changes.

- ❖ As a person matures, their opinions and views change, also their likes and dislikes changes.
- ❖ Romantic relationships at a younger age increases the chance that the couple will grow apart so it's better to wait until one has fully matured before pursuing a relationship to avoid temptation and sexual immorality.
- As teen's, physical desires are very strong and dating subjects the individual to many temptations
 - ❖ This includes premature bonding, lust, impurity, and premarital sex ("fornication")
 - ❖ It is better to keep away from these temptations and "escape for your life" (Genesis 19:17)
- "Flee also youthful lusts; but pursue righteousness, faith, love, peace with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart" (2 Timothy 2:22)
- "Therefore, put to death your members which are on earth: fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. Because of these things, the wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience." (Colossians 3:5-6)
- Premature romantic relationship makes you mentally and emotionally overwhelmed, which would hinder you from achieving academic goals.
- It creates unrealistically expectations which could impact your relationship with your future spouse.
- Research indicates that people who live together prior to getting married are more likely to have marriages that end in divorce.
Note to servants: this is a correlation not causation!
- Some studies found that people who cohabit prior to marriage are more likely to end in divorce.
(Quotes About Chalk. QuotesGramDivorce rate is over 50% in America and over 40% in Canada.)**Why do you think that is?**

The concept of multiple dating/breakups instate an undo mindset into one's mind

And when it comes to marriage it is hard to commit to one relationship. "UNDO"

(Disposable dating culture which translates into the marriages)

Servant to review Ephesians 5

What will help us avoid a romantic relationship at this age?

- Keep your time occupied with beneficial spiritual [prayers, prostration (metanoya)],
- Praises] and physical activities (play a sport, go for a walk).
- Flourish our emotional needs from God, family and pure friendships while maintaining Personal boundaries,
- Avoid one on one outings.
- Volunteer in church, community and help the needy.
- Seek help from your father of confession and/or specialized Christian's counselor to end or avoid any present relationships outside of God's plan for you.
- Continue to pray to God and consult your father of confession, and listen to the Holy Spirit's guidance. Talk to your parents.

Objectives → To understand what courtship is and the dangers of dating.

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Appendix A

- Fireplace is one of the strong examples for love and sex. Love and sex can be very powerful and hurtful if used out of place same way fire! It can burn you and causes life damage but if it is contained in fireplace, you would get the warmth and enjoy it.



- Triangle of marriage is the concept where we believe the marriage is a unity of 3, God, husband, and wife.

