

Strike the Original Match

Commitment Is the Key (Part One)

DEUTERONOMY 6:10–15; EZEKIEL 33:30–33



The Heart of the Matter

It's a dangerous world out there! Every which way you turn, the culture, through the ever-present media, launches a new attack on our dedication to the biblical view of marriage. Pornography diminishes our passion for our spouses. Homosexuality demands equal standing in law and ethics as a new form of marriage. Individualism drives our already selfish natures into seeking our own good first before the good of our spouses and family. How can Christian marriages survive such onslaughts? Only through commitment. The good old-fashioned hard work of sticking it out!



Discovering the Way

1. Cultural Pressures on Marital Commitment (Deuteronomy 6:10–12)
The culture gives us permission to be irresponsible when it comes to marriage. And if we believe the lie, then we just might take the escape route and live only for ourselves.

2. The Collapse of Marital Commitment (Selected Scriptures)

The answer to this problem is fourfold. First, public opinion tells us not to commit (Deuteronomy 6:13–15). Second, accommodating theology gives us an excuse not to commit (Ezekiel 33:30–33). Third, delayed consequences convince us that we don't need to commit (Ecclesiastes 8:11). Fourth, Christian approval makes it seem okay to not commit (1 Corinthians 5:1–5).

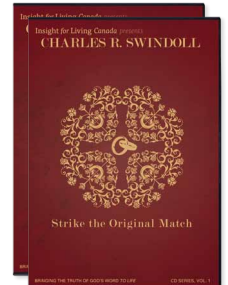


Starting Your Journey

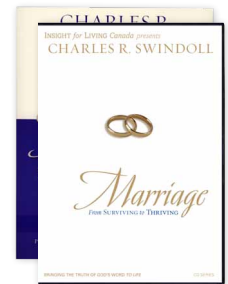
The biblical ideal of marriage, if it is to survive in our homes, requires unconditional acceptance of our spouses and unending commitment to our marriages.



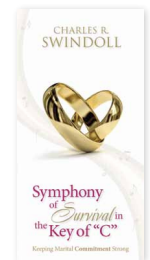
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