

## PREMARITAL COUNSELING - APRIL 21, 2007

A family had gone to the movies and on their way in one of the children of the family stopped by the refreshment booth to pick up some popcorn and coke. By the time he got into the cinema, the lights went dim. He scurried the seats in the region where he stood and could recognize no one from his family. He paced up and down the aisle looking and hoping some family member would call to him. But this was forthcoming. He by that time became anxious and asked in a loud voice "Does anybody recognize me?"

It is easy to get lost in a marriage. Husbands are asking the question. Wives are asking the question. Does anybody recognize me? Generally, as you navigate life and find that you get lost because you do not following directions. In marriage, you get lost also when you do not grow (grove) together as a couple. Marriage and family are of such that it must not be entered lightly or unadvisedly. A marriage without clear direction, will in relatively short time cause the companions to be asking for attention and recognition.

### TWO FACTORS TO KNOW.

1. It is normal to want to get married. Why? BIBLICAL - DEVELOPMENTAL
2. In marriage you are searching for two things.

#### A. **SIGNIFICANCE**

1. Someone to VALIDATE my VALUE as a person
  2. Someone to VALIDATE the IMPORTANCE of my aspirations in life
- confirm – support – uphold – back up –

#### B. **SECURITY**

1. An environment where I would be **PROTECTED**
2. An environment that would not be **DANGEROUS**

### WHAT IS MARRIAGE?

Definition:

It is a Triangular Garden, which needs fertilizer, weeding, sunlight, water, pruning and dressing/decorating.

Boundaries of the Garden.

A. \_\_\_\_\_

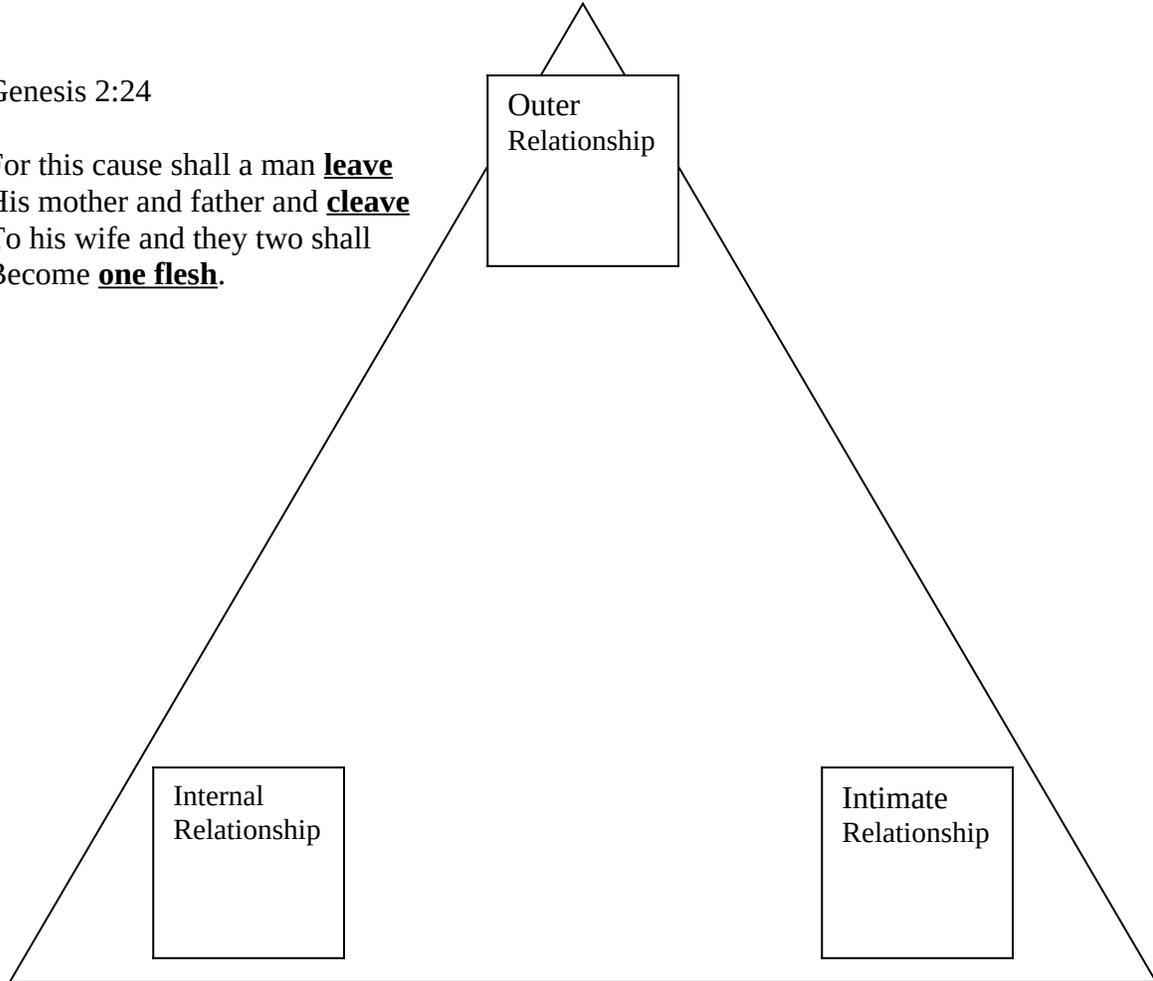
B. \_\_\_\_\_

C. \_\_\_\_\_

**TRIANGULAR GARDEN**

Genesis 2:24

For this cause shall a man **leave**  
His mother and father and **cleave**  
To his wife and they two shall  
Become **one flesh**.



Planting the appropriate Flowers in the Garden.:

A. \_\_\_\_\_ LOVE \_\_\_\_\_

B. \_\_\_\_\_ SAFETY \_\_\_\_\_

C. \_\_\_\_\_ COMMUNICATION \_\_\_\_\_

D. \_\_\_\_\_ PROJECT \_\_\_\_\_