

Can a man and a woman become one in the spirit? Can they become one in flesh when married but can they come one in spirit, as well?

Marriage is: one man, one woman in covenant (Matt. 19:6) for life (Rom. 7:2, 3). Marriage is a picture of Christ's union with his church to the world (Eph. 5:23–32). The prophet Amos asked: Can two walk together, except they be agreed? Am 3:3. There must be agreement between a man and his wife in marriage or the two will not walk together with God. They will walk together with Him when they are in agreement (1 Pe 3:8). The spirit of God in him will not disagree with the spirit of God in her.

An unsaved spouse is sanctified by a saved spouse (1 Co 7:14); but, there is no guarantee that an unsaved spouse be saved (1 Co 7:16). Each spouse must repent (Ac 11:18, 26:20) and be born again individually (Jn 3:7).

Oneness is important to the Lord between believers (1 Pe 3:8)—and more so between husband and wife (Mt 19:5, Prov. 5:15–19, Eph. 5:21–33). The two must be *one* to have their prayers answered (1 Pe 3:7). A husband and his wife are heirs together of the grace of life (1 Pe 3:7).

Christians are one in: baptism (1 Cor. 12:13), unity (Ezek. 37:16–24), Christ's headship (Ezek. 34:23), faith (Eph. 4:4–6), mind (Phil. 2:2) and heart (Ac 4:32). They: have the indwelling Spirit (1 Cor. 3:16, 17; 1 Cor. 6:19), have been born again (2 Cor. 5:17) and are one with the Lord (2 Cor. 13:5). They express this oneness by: having the same mind (1 Pet. 3:8), being united in the Spirit (Ps. 133:1–3), sharing the same faith (Eph. 4:4–6), desiring fellowship (Ac 2:42–47) and having genuine concern for one another (1 Cor. 12:25, 26).

Believers, though different from one another, are joined: physically (if man and wife, 1 Pet. 3:1–7), socially (Eph. 6:5–9) and mentally (1 Cor. 1:26–29).

This was God's plan from the beginning (Gen. 2:18–24). His way is the best way (Jn 10:10). It was Jesus' prayer that men would be one as he and the Father are one. He prayed: That they all may be one, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us (Jn 17:20–21).

True believers are being sanctified daily. The author of Hebrews¹ wrote: For both He who sanctifies and those who are being sanctified are all of one, for which reason He is not ashamed to call them brethren (Heb 2:11).

The apostle Paul wrote: For as many as are *led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God* (Ro 8:14, emphasis mine). It is important for believers to marry other believers so that they can be one as God intended.

Paul wrote:

Do not be unequally yoked together with unbelievers. For what fellowship has righteousness with lawlessness? And what communion has light with darkness? And what accord has Christ with Belial? Or what part has a believer with an unbeliever? And what agreement has the temple of God with idols? 2 Co 6:14–16

¹ Likely the apostle Paul.