

## Study Guide for Part 7: Challenges to Intimacy II

### Keeping the Goal in Sight

The *purpose* of marriage is to *solve the problem of* \_\_\_\_\_.

The *goal* of marriage is to *become* \_\_\_\_\_. Which means to be \_\_\_\_\_, to know & be known.

### The Challenge of Leaving & Cleaving

What does Genesis 2:24-25 say about the *process* of intimacy in your marriage?

Are there unhealthy ties to anyone hindering the oneness you are to have with your spouse?

- Parents
- Siblings
- Children
- Friends
- Hobbies
- Sports
- Church

What are some “good things” that can actually interfere in or challenge marital intimacy?

### The Challenge of Physical Intimacy

While we’ve emphasized the “two becoming one” part of Genesis 2:24, it does say they become one “flesh.” Marital intimacy comprehends *ALL* we are; spirit, soul & *body*. Just as there are challenges to marital intimacy in the realms of the spirit and soul, there in the sphere of the physical as well.

A key component in turning this challenge into an opportunity is to talk about physical intimacy. Communicate with one another. And by all means, discover what God says.

What does Hebrews 13:4 say about how God see physical intimacy in marriage? (The Greek word “bed” is coitus – sexual intercourse.) According to this verse, what is the proper domain of sex? Between who?

How ought God’s view of marital sex effect ours?

If there is a sexual dysfunction due to either physical or psychological issues, couples ought to seek out help because God intends this aspect of marriage to be healthy.

Read 1 Corinthians 7. What does this passage tell us about sex in marriage?