

## Real Solutions for Life and Marriage

➤ **CONTRACT** = An \_\_\_\_\_ between two or more parties, especially one that is written and enforceable by law.

➤ **WHY CONTRACTS FAIL:**

1. They're based on \_\_\_\_\_
2. They're based on \_\_\_\_\_
3. They're based on "I have to look out for \_\_\_\_\_"
4. They can be \_\_\_\_\_
5. They set up our keeping \_\_\_\_\_
6. When broken, there's retribution – somebody gets \_\_\_\_\_

### **Why Marriage Is Likely To Fail If It Is Viewed As A Contract**

### **Why We Are Likely To Fail In Our Christian Life If Our Relationship With God Is Viewed As A Contract**

➤ **THE SOLUTION? COVENANT** = A binding, \_\_\_\_\_ agreement based on \_\_\_\_\_.

1. Mentioned \_\_\_\_\_ times in Scripture

2. Based on the \_\_\_\_\_ of God

<sup>3</sup>At this, Abram fell face down on the ground. Then God said to him, <sup>4</sup>"This is my covenant with you: I will make you the father of a multitude of nations!... <sup>6</sup>I will make you extremely fruitful. Your descendants will become many nations, and kings will be among them!

<sup>7</sup>"I will confirm my covenant with you and your descendants after you, from generation to generation. This is the everlasting covenant: I will always be your God and the God of your descendants after you. (Gen 17:3-7)

3. \_\_\_\_\_ – cannot be broken.

<sup>8</sup>And I will give the entire land of Canaan, where you now live as a foreigner, to you and your descendants. It will be their possession forever, and I will be their God."

<sup>9</sup>Then God said to Abraham, "Your responsibility is to obey the terms of the covenant. You and all your descendants have this continual responsibility. <sup>10</sup>This is the covenant that you and your descendants must keep: Each male among you must be circumcised. <sup>11</sup>You must cut off the flesh of your foreskin as a sign of the covenant between me and you. <sup>12</sup>From generation to generation, every male child must be circumcised on the eighth day after his birth. This applies not only to members of your family but also to the servants born in your household and the foreign-born servants whom you have purchased. <sup>13</sup>All must be circumcised. Your bodies will bear the mark of my everlasting covenant." (Gen 3:8-13)

4. Changing of \_\_\_\_\_

<sup>5</sup>What's more, I am changing your name. It will no longer be Abram. Instead, you will be called Abraham, for you will be the father of many nations. <sup>15</sup>Then God said to Abraham, "Regarding Sarai, your wife—her name will no longer be Sarai. From now on her name will be Sarah. (Gen 3:5,15)

And God took Abraham's name – "I am the God of your father Abraham ...." (Gen 26:24)

5. Covenant is for \_\_\_\_\_ – us and others through us.

<sup>2</sup>I will make you into a great nation. I will bless you and make you famous, and you will be a blessing to others. <sup>3</sup>I will bless those who bless you and curse those who treat you with contempt. All the families on earth will be blessed through you." (Genesis 12:2-3 NLT)

6. Based on \_\_\_\_\_ "...an everlasting covenant between me and you...to be your God and the God of your descendents after you." (Gen. 17:7 NIV)

**CONTRACT..... COVENANT**

Based on mistrust ..... All about \_\_\_\_\_

Based on \_\_\_\_\_ ..... Based on unconditional love

"I have to look out for \_\_\_\_\_" ..... "I want to look out for you"

Limited \_\_\_\_\_ ..... Unlimited responsibility

Based on obligation..... Based on \_\_\_\_\_ and self sacrifice

Let's make a \_\_\_\_\_ ..... Here's your gift

Can be \_\_\_\_\_ ..... Can NOT be broken

Result of Default = retribution ..... Result of Default = \_\_\_\_\_

Not \_\_\_\_\_ in Scripture ..... Mentioned 300 times

God never made a \_\_\_\_\_ with anyone ..... God makes covenants with His people

➤ **Couple Sharing**

In your own words, affirm to each other your love and life-long commitment to your covenant relationship.

**For Couples Together:**

Believing that marriage is a covenant intended by God to be a lifelong fruitful relationship between a man and a woman, we vow to God, each other, our families, and our community to remain steadfast in unconditional love, reconciliation and sexual purity, while purposely growing in our covenant marriage relationship.

**For Every Believer:**

Believing that my Christian life is a covenant with God to give me a lifelong fruitful relationship with the Father through His Son Jesus Christ, I vow to God and to this church Body to remain steadfast in my love for my brothers and sisters in Christ, reconciliation and purity of life, while purposely growing in my covenant relationship with the Lord.