



## Two Churches, One Marriage

### The Meaning of Marriage



### Application

1. You and your partner should go through the five-step process outlined in this unit to explore and develop a shared understanding of marriage. To begin the process, each of you should individually write down the answers to questions raised in this unit (Step 1). As you answer each of these questions, also write down how you came to adopt these beliefs or values (Step 2). Each of you should initially do steps one and two by yourself without consulting your partner. After both of you have completed these steps, get together with your partner to share your answers (Step 3). After sharing each other's answers, map out the areas where your responses seem very similar, and also the areas where there seems to be disagreement (Step 4). For areas of disagreement, be sure to consider possible areas of commonality. Finally, discuss with your partner which of the areas of agreement and disagreement are most significant to you (Step 5). Are the differences minor and easy to live with, or are some of the differences major and potentially problematic? If there are significant areas of disagreement, consider using the communication and problem-solving skills to clarify and perhaps renegotiate expectations.
2. Write down the vows that you would like to say to your partner.