1. \*Monogamous Union:\* "For this reason, a man shall leave his father and mother and be united to his wife." (Genesis 2:24)

- Explanation: The Bible emphasizes the exclusive and monogamous nature of marriage, where a man and a woman come together to form a new family unit.

2. \*Leaving and Cleaving:\* "A man shall leave his father and mother." (Genesis 2:24)

- Explanation: Marriage involves a departure from one's parental home, signifying the establishment of a new primary relationship.

3. \*Unity of Flesh:\* "They will become one flesh." (Genesis 2:24)

- Explanation: Marriage signifies a profound unity, both physically and spiritually, as husband and wife are joined together in a deep and intimate bond.

4. \*Naked and Unashamed:\* "The man and his wife were both naked, and they felt no shame." (Genesis 2:25)

- Explanation: The transparency and vulnerability in marriage create a space where individuals can be completely open and unashamed before each other.

5. \*Companionship:\* "It is not good for the man to be alone." (Genesis 2:18)

- Explanation: God designed marriage to provide companionship, addressing the inherent human need for relational connection and support.

6. \*God's Design:\* "The Lord God said, 'It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him.'" (Genesis 2:18)

- Explanation: Marriage is part of God's intentional design to fulfill and complement individuals within the context of a committed relationship.

7. \*Creation Order:\* "The Lord God formed a man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life." (Genesis 2:7)

- Explanation: Marriage reflects the order of creation, where God formed Adam first and then created Eve as his suitable partner.

8. \*Headship and Submission:\* "Your desire will be for your husband, and he will rule over you." (Genesis 3:16)

- Explanation: While recognizing the equality of husband and wife, the Bible acknowledges distinct roles within marriage, with the husband as the head and the wife in a supportive role.

9. \*Procreation:\* "Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it." (Genesis 1:28)

- Explanation: One of the purposes of marriage is the blessing of children and the continuation of the human race through procreation.

10. \*Covenant Relationship:\* "So they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore, what God has joined together, let no one separate." (Matthew 19:6)

- Explanation: Marriage is regarded as a sacred covenant, established and blessed by God, and should be honored and protected.

11. \*Permanence:\* "What God has joined together, let no one separate." (Matthew 19:6)

- Explanation: Marriage is intended to be a lifelong commitment, and the concept of divorce is discouraged, emphasizing the enduring nature of the marital bond.

12. \*Mutual Love and Respect:\* "Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her." (Ephesians 5:25)

- Explanation: The Bible instructs husbands to love their wives sacrificially, mirroring Christ's love for the church, and wives to respect and submit to their husbands.

13. \*Fulfillment of Needs:\* "But since sexual immorality is occurring, each man should have sexual relations with his own wife, and each woman with her own husband." (1 Corinthians 7:2)

- Explanation: Marriage provides a legitimate and fulfilling context for the expression of sexual intimacy, meeting the natural needs of individuals within the bounds of commitment.

14. \*Reflecting Christ and the Church:\* "This is a profound mystery—but I am talking about Christ and the church." (Ephesians 5:32)

- Explanation: The union of husband and wife is symbolic of the spiritual union between Christ and the church, highlighting the depth and significance of the marital relationship.

15. \*Faithfulness:\* "Marriage should be honored by all, and the marriage bed kept pure, for God will judge the adulterer and all the sexually immoral." (Hebrews 13:4)

- Explanation: The Bible emphasizes the sanctity of marriage, calling for faithfulness and purity within the marital relationship, with consequences for violations of this sacred bond.