

Point of Contrast #16

RELIABILITY

Your faithfulness to commitments

Girl-Gone-Wild

Undependable

“For my husband is not at home; he has gone on a long journey; he took a bag of money with him; at full moon he will come home.”
Proverbs 7:19–20

Girl-Gone-Wise

Dependable

“The heart of her husband trusts in her.”
Proverbs 31:11

In the “Girls Gone Wise” book, read the sixteenth point of contrast between the Wild Thing and the Wise Thing (pages 208-215), and then answer the following questions:

1. In your own words, explain what a covenant is.
2. Make a list of the various types of relationships that involve a covenant.
3. What is the foundational character trait that a covenant requires and reveals?
4. Why is it important that we are faithful to covenants?

5. Why is unfaithfulness to the covenant of marriage particularly reprehensible to the Lord?
6. Scripture tells us that when we profane the covenant of marriage we profane God. To “profane” is to treat with irreverence or contempt, to fail to uphold as holy. Which of the following behaviors profane marriage? Check all that apply.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> having an affair | <input type="checkbox"/> imagining an affair |
| <input type="checkbox"/> flirting or messing around | <input type="checkbox"/> reading magazines that exalt sex outside of marriage |
| <input type="checkbox"/> watching movies that glamorize infidelity | <input type="checkbox"/> telling or listening to off-color sexual jokes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> speaking negatively about marriage | <input type="checkbox"/> failing to honor/respect my husband |
| <input type="checkbox"/> thinking that pre-marital sex is no big deal | <input type="checkbox"/> thinking that divorce is no big deal |
| <input type="checkbox"/> thinking that I will only keep my vow if my husband keeps his | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> failing to encourage a friend to remain faithful to her marriage vows | |

7. Do you take the covenant of marriage as seriously as God does? Do you esteem and honor it as much as He does? Describe the ways in which you have been guilty of profaning marriage.

8. Describe a time when someone close to you broke a promise they made to you. How did you feel?

9. Describe a time when you said you would do something and then didn't do it.

10. The Lord wants you to be as reliable to your word as He is to His. Are you a woman of your word? Are you faithful in the “little things”? Do you say you will be there, and then fail to show up? Do you say you'll do it, and then procrastinate and not get around to doing it? Do you say you're in, and then back out? Put a mark on the scale to indicate how reliable you are in “little things.”



11. Aren't you glad that the Lord is totally and utterly reliable? Take a moment to pray and thank Him that He is reliable even when you are not. Confess the ways in which you have failed. Thank Him for His forgiveness and grace. Ask Him to transform your character, so that your faithfulness to others may become more and more like His faithfulness to you.