

## CouplesInBloom.com – For

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**For** is one of the best words that describes relationship intimacy. “If God be **for** us, who can be against us?” ⇨ Romans 8:31b. Think about the *Almighty God* being on *your* side, in lieu of the literal Biblical definition of **for**: *above, beyond, across, for the sake of, instead, regarding, superior to, more than*. Safety, comfort and care result from being partnered with someone who can-, is committed to- and does- minister to us and **for** us.

Romans 8:31-39 ⇨ describes the positional protection God gives us, His church, the Bride of Christ. This is an **excellent Biblical model for marriage**. Remember God said to ‘love our wife as Christ loved the church’? ⇨ Ephesians 5:25. As Christians follow Christ, so we become **for** our spouse as God, through Jesus Christ, has become **for** us.

God designed brides with a desire to feel cherished, and bridegrooms to provide that cherishing. Christians can and should know firsthand what this cherishing feels like. This happens by investing our lives in the daily workings of building relationship intimacy. Do we actually choose to accomplish measurable steps of love with God? With our spouse?

See some examples from this Scripture in ⇨ Romans 8:

⇨:32 **share all things freely**: from gladly being one flesh ⇨ Genesis 2:24-25 to having one bank account ⇨ Luke 15:31, **for** each other means not withholding good.

⇨:33 **defend your spouse**: you are your spouse’s greatest fan: **no one** should be more **for** them than you! You are the one who renders their goodness to others.

⇨:34 **intercede for your spouse**: the devil is the one who accuses your spouse, **not you!** ⇨ Revelation 12:10. **You** are the one who stands in the gap **for** your spouse.

⇨:35 **be indivisible from your spouse**: every “tribulation, distress, famine, danger, persecution, or sword” should be **no competition** against your love **for** your spouse.

⇨:36 **take the hit for your spouse**: this means your love **for** your spouse motivates you to run interference against their interruptions to spare them from being distracted.

⇨:37 **empower your spouse**: being **for** your spouse inspires them to victory, plus motivates them to do the same **for** others... the first one being you!

⇨:38-39 **besides things (:35), be indivisible from your spouse regarding people**: be 100% committed **for** your spouse, and 100% committed to never divorce your spouse.

**Religion doesn’t fool God**: believing it means to be living it. Talk is cheap: anyone can say, “I love you” but it takes authenticity to say, “**I am for you**” and then to prove it with one’s entire life. **This is why self-deceived, religious people force God to say to them:**

“Not everyone who says to Me, Lord, Lord, will enter into the kingdom of Heaven, but the ones who do the will of My Father in Heaven. Many will say to Me in that day, Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in Your name, and in Your name cast out demons, and in Your name do many works of power? And then I will declare to them, I never knew you; “depart from Me, those working lawlessness!”” ⇨ Matthew 7:21-23.

Marriage follows the same scenario because God created marriage to be the earthly picture of intimate relationship with Him. People who divorce actually say, “Depart from me, you are not **for** me.” Thank God, He has modeled for us how to be **for** our spouse! ♥