

## Birth Control

We need to be more righteous than the Catholic Church. Are we using birth control in the first few years of our marriages? The only time we would want any type of birth control is when we take counsel whether or not there is a serious health concern. This will help people be justified in their consciences. Birth control is not natural (except rhythm). The natural outcome of loving one another is that you have children. You bear fruit.

We should use whatever is natural if we think we should not have children for a time. Should a couple end up naming their child “*Oh No*” if that is what their attitude is towards the news of the wife’s pregnancy? What is “*Oh No*” in Hebrew?

You don’t avoid the time of ovulation if you want to have a child, but if you do not want to have children, you do. It takes only a minute amount of self-control to avoid the time of ovulation. If we become casual about birth control then that leaven will spread through the nation. I have heard we are even using something called “spermicide.”

**Hakam:** Couples need to have faith about their family planning. They need to be taught. Many of these young women know nothing about basal body temperature, mucus, times of ovulation, etc.

How are they going to learn about these things? Don’t the older women know about them? Don’t they need to be teaching the younger women about these things?

**Shoresh:** The issue of birth control should be submitted to the local elders.

In the Kingdom of God, surely people don’t put off having children for the first few years by using birth control.

**Keli:** Yes, one new married couple was thinking that way. It only took a five-minute talk to help the husband. He thanked me when we were done. He was glowing, happy, no longer confused. It’s a worldly concept that you should take time to build your relationship before you start to have children. What really happens is that they form a selfish relationship where they never desire children.

They should wait until they are twenty to marry if they don't want to have children until then. To not desire children is the destruction of the nation. So, what are they doing, using birth control or self-control?

**Shoresh:** A man needs to have self-control, being sensitive to his wife's needs. My wife really has a burden about this issue. We have talked about this so many times, not just about ourselves, but about other couples as well.

**Racham:** This kind of selfishness goes so deep that you can hardly recognize it. It is like when you go against the everlasting covenant, the problem is the selfishness that's come into you. You turn around in 20 years and your family is a disaster, and you don't know how it happened.

We need to come back into the right way of thinking — that we would desire children.

**Shoresh:** It's not a light thing when we consider birth control.

*Someone asked what the standard was, saying that right now there is not one standard in the communities.*

The standard is to let our Father have his way and let the man have self-control. What did Malachi say? What does God desire? What is He looking for in marriage? Godly offspring. The outcome of love is godly offspring.

**Keli:** If your children are unwanted, then how can you be the seed of Abraham?

**Haggai:** If you don't desire children, you won't desire new disciples to come in. They will both present too many problems.

**Daniel:** It is abnormal that children from a large family would grow up and not desire children. It's because they never received vision for having a large family to build Israel. I have lived with some of these families, and the younger children were passed off on the older ones without any vision because the parents had not had the children with vision. They had not really wanted to have them, but lived under the principle of "no birth control." This is what their children who are now marrying have to labor under, and it shouldn't be.

**Racham:** It is unheard of in the Scriptures that someone would say, "Oh God, You have given me too many children!" You can't find it. The only thing mentioned is when our Father closed someone's womb. This whole discussion is only possible in a selfish, technological age.

The Scriptures talk about a quiver full of children. How many is that? Blessed is the man that wants a quiver full. The outcome of marriage is children.

**David Zerubbabel:** We talk about a lot of things in preparing our young people for marriage, but having children is sometimes not one of them.

**Ha-emeq:** Women usually know when they are ovulating.

We need to investigate and find out how people are doing here. Are they using artificial methods of birth control? Do they have a good conscience about it? Can they have a good conscience about it if we don't talk to them? If people are justified in using artificial means of contraception than maybe the Roman Catholic Church is more righteous than we are.

**Haggai:** If the time of nursing does not naturally prevent ovulation for the woman, then maybe they are justified in using unnatural means of contraception. But the use of such means would not go beyond the time when the women weaned her child, because that is when she would normally, naturally be protected.

**David Zerubbabel:** Another thing my wife has seen in some of the young couples having many children right away is that they are not doing several things which help a woman be normal. Things like nursing their babies until they are satisfied, not rushing through it to get on to something else. The baby's needs have to be met so that both the mother and the baby are at peace. They often try to get their baby to sleep through the night when they should be nursing them.

**Daniel:** I have a young woman in my community who is suffering about this issue of birth control. She has had three children in just a few years, and she would like to do something about it. But she stays up late, which cuts down on her nursing, which leads to ovulating. She also kind of rushes her baby through nursing, and doesn't always give her children the attention they need. She is a young disciple who wants to be in on all the exciting things of our life, often the things that mean staying up late.

But a woman's priority is to be a mother of her children. That is why they have to do all these things like nurse their babies to satisfaction, which promotes milk production. High milk production is a natural means of preventing ovulation. But all these things take dying to self.

We need to eradicate the use of spermicide in the Body right quick. (There was complete agreement about this.) How are we going to do it?

**Qatan:** I can remember you taking the men aside in a meeting in 1978 or 79. You told them the basis of birth control is self-control. Later I remember you talking about someone's wheelbarrow of condoms, and how our Father wanted him to be fruitful in spite of it, and he has been. How many children does he have

now? Aren't he and his wife doubly fruitful? The men need to have the mind to lead their families and the women need to be educated about these things. If they keep having children while they are nursing, then they can use something besides a dangerous chemical.

**Ha-emeq:** I had never even heard of such a thing before. Huldah told me a leading brother with a large family decided he had enough children, and they decided to use spermicide. From there, it has spread.

**Malachi:** This kind of thing can lead to cancer and other diseases later on. This is not a light matter.

We're preparing for the birth of the nation. We're getting ready for the race to begin. We have to establish these things now; we can't be talking about them, laying their foundation, that is, when the race begins. These things need to get to the edge of the robe. Is it possible that we could get things to the edge of the robe?

It is obvious these things have to get to the edge of the robe, because the other things are.