Angie's Marriage Column-June 4, 2015

Help for Dealing with Personality Disorders (unbelief) in Your Spouse

Ask Angie: I have been with my husband for 7 years. Honestly he was abusive from the start once the ring was on my finger and I believe he suffers from Narcistic Personality disorder or Personality disorder due to his horrible upbringing I would love your thoughts on what God calls us to do with Narcistic, abusive, cheating and men who use their own wives and take advantage of their position. It is like my husband has a disorder that rejects love, despises it and the closer you get to him, the meaner he gets. Now despite his abuse I have still tried to show him love, but have tried to put boundaries. I tried getting him help but his family tells me I am the one who needs help and that their son is fine. My mother in law has tried to destroy our marriage for years because she wants her children to stay enmeshed to her. So them becoming adults and separated from her scares her. What do you recommend for a situation such as mine. Can God heal someone so broken?

Note: The above question can't really be narrowed down so that the wife or husband receives any real guidance and help UNTIL they recognize where they place God in relation to their lives. Who is on the pedestal? Who is coming first and more important in their lives? How can they begin to put more TRUST and FAITH in Jesus Christ rather in humanistic institutions and groups?

Heaven Ministries Guidance: We're really sorry that you are going through this trial in your marriage! It truly can be difficult and very challenging living with an unbeliever. ANYONE who uses and abuses people for their own gain is not someone who truly loves Jesus Christ. There is so much to say about this that I'm just going to start the only way I know how. First of all, YES God heals the most wretched and broken, lost people. I was one of them in my later stages of alcoholism. I should be dead, but for some reason God had other plans for me.

First we're going to talk about your husband and his unbelief, and then will talk about you and your part as his wife in the marriage, and finally we'll show you ways to deal with living with an unbelieving spouse. I hope this does not get too long. Please bear with me.

Definition of Unbelief (Noah Webster 1828)

- 1. Incredulity; the withholding of belief; as, unbelief is blind.
- 2. Infidelity; disbelief of divine revelation.
- 3. In the New Testament, disbelief of the truth of the gospel, rejection of Christ as the Savior of men, and of the doctrines he taught; distrust of God's promises and faithfulness, &c. Matt. 13. Mark 16. Heb. 3. Rom. 4.
- 4. Weak faith. Mark 9.

Unbelief vs. Belief

Anytime we recognize someone who has mental and emotional issues that manipulate, use and abuse other people, it means he or she is **living their life** based on past events and have not healed the wounds from those past events and, or negative environment and therefore, they act out in harmful ways with their manipulative feelings and in other controlling and abusive ways.

But I'm not a clinical doctor. We do not give out diagnosis with clinical names for people's emotional and mental issues. In fact we strive to veer as far away from humanistic environments and behaviors as much as possible because we believe that Jesus Christ is our Healer!!

This is what's meant by RENEWING AND TRANSFORMING OF YOUR MIND and that is done through our LORD and SAVIOR. We cannot renew our mind by going to a therapist or psychiatrist or other. ONLY GOD CAN HEAL! The more that people put their trust in humanistic institutions the less likely they are to truly get the healing they need! ***Whom or What Do You TRUST?***MUST READ.

King James Bible: And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God. Romans 12:2

Christ says we MUST be renewed in our minds to be able to understand (recognize, prove) Gods will at work in our lives. Anything else is faithlessness. If you have not read the MUST READ article above yet, please do and then come back to this newsletter. ***Whom or What Do You TRUST?***

God or Humanism?

When people provide clinical diagnosis's to mental health problems it then means they must go to a "clinic" for healing. What does a clinic do? They give out toxic pharmaceutical medications that compound and worsen mental and emotional problems in people. Medicines hide the problem, while keeping people from their real Savior Jesus Christ!

Here's where unbelief vs. belief comes in. I'm going to use myself as an example.

If I believe that I have this terrible personality disorder because a doctor said so and I allow myself to be put on harsh medications to make me feel better than I will also believe that I do not need God. In fact, I will reject Jesus Christ as my Healer, won't I? Yes, I will. Isn't that what number 3 of the definition of unbelief above is? REJECTION OF CHRIST. At the very least because I go to a mere man for help with healing of my past wounds means that I am WEAK IN MY FAITH! Isn't that number 4? Yes, it is.

The point is as long as we put our faith and trust in what man can do rather than what God does for us, thinking that Doctors and psychiatrists are our healers we will never truly develop faith in God? And that's number 3 above of what the definition of unbelief is, HAVING NO FAITH OR not BELIEVING IN THE PROMISES OF GOD!

1 Peter 2:24 Who his own self bore our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live to righteousness: by whose stripes you were healed.

James 5:16 Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that you may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much.

Matthew 4:23 And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all manner of sickness and all manner of disease among the people.

NOTE: Please do not misunderstand me. If I fell off my roof and broke a leg, I would want to be sent to the doctor for a cast. Or if I got into a bad car crash and was bleeding to death, of course I would want to go to the hospital for a blood transfusion. Do not confuse MEDICAL EMERGENCIES (things out of our control) with health issues that are in OUR CONTROL. BIG, BIG difference!!

WE CANNOT FIX OUR SPOUSES

How Spouses Enable the Problem: Why are you trying to pinpoint / find a condition that you think your husband has? I'm sorry but you are coming to the wrong place if you want us to diagnose a certain mental health problem. Besides that it is all UNBELIEF anyway.

You need to understand that you cannot fix your husband!! Right now from your letter to us (way more than what you see above) I can see that you are controlling and micromanaging this man who loves all of this NEGATIVE attention you are giving him. You are actually enabling him to continue being far away from God!! Keep reading...

The first truth is your husband desperately needs healing. The second truth is YOU ALSO NEED HEALING. Now, I'm not saying you are abusive or have personality issues but what I am saying is you have been bruised and you are seeking solace through your feelings of needing to control and fix the problem, which is your husband. BUT THAT'S GODS JOB!! The more you try to fix, the worse you are going to feel because of poring your whole heart and mind into a person who is carrying around a load of unbelief within his being. I want to say this in a nice way but this might come off strong but I need to make my point; you need to "back off".

I'd be a billionaire if I received just a nickel for each time someone has tried to do Gods job for Him. Right now you have unknowingly put your husband on the pedestal, and everything you do is based off of that man on that pedestal. Your emotions and mental health is going insane from trying to fix a man that YOU CAN'T CHANGE!! So you probably do have severe emotional wounds that need healing. Trying to change the man you love is literally eating you up inside.

TAKE CARE of YOU, THEN (MAYBE) YOU CAN INFLUENCE YOUR HUSBAND, INDIRECTLY

You desperately need to look at yourself and realize that you are interfering with someone's relationship with God. You see, your husband does not have a relationship with God, but rather with the world. His wounds are literally living his life for him. He is so wretched, along with his whole unbelieving extended family, (particularly his mother) that he can't recognize God for his toes. HE NEEDS HEALING!

But wait, he will never realize he needs healing until the person closest to him takes care of themselves first....and that is you since you are married and live together. Another thing I observed from your (long, long) letter to me (not all is published here) is that your husband has not broken the umbilical cord between he and his mother. He does not understand that his mother is the cause of much of his own grief and wounds within and that he must learn to detach and perhaps physically separate himself from her twisted and negative love she is giving him.

You REALLY need to take care of YOU, so your husband recognizes the perils that are affecting his own life. Right now because he is so wrapped up with himself he does understand or know where he stands in his relationship with His creator. ...that's unbelief. An unbeliever's perception is totally different from the believer's perception until they come out of themselves. In alcoholics they call this "bottoming out" and it is no different with people who are scarred and bruised up emotionally...they too must come to grips with JUST HOW wretched their life has become to seek God for help.

What does God say: ...and that you be renewed in the spirit of your mind, and put on the new self, which in the likeness of God has been created in righteousness and holiness of the truth. Therefore, laying aside falsehood, SPEAK TRUTH EACH ONE of you WITH HIS NEIGHBOR, for we are members of one another...Ephesians 4:23-25

How to Deal with Being Married to an Unbeliever

Does it matter if the problem with your husband is alcoholism, adultery, or a personality disorder, etc? No, it doesn't.

DETACH

It's going to be difficult at first for you but you must detach from the abuses and manipulations of your husband. Only when you learn to detach and apply detachment efforts into your daily life will you be a "LIGHT" for your husband. You have to let go of trying to FIX, CONTROL, and CHANGE the man you love.

What You Can Do for YOU

- 1. Back off from interfering with fixing husband
- 2. Pray for him sincerely ask God to heal your husband pray 25 times a day!
- 3. Take care of YOU! Read and study the bible every day. Talk with God.
- 4. Understand that God knows what you are going through, but it is not YOUR WILL or YOUR HUSBANDS WILL that heals anyone or any circumstance, or any issue.

Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Matthew 6:10

- 5. In everything you do and say, base your ACTIONS and REACTIONS from the principles of God. Study and read the bible daily!
- 6. Learn to detach and APPLY what you learn. Make affirmations and stick them on places you will see daily; in the kitchen, bedroom mirror, fridge, etc.

- 7. Prepare yourself a refuge in the home if at all possible. Some spouses can be so abusive that you will need to remove yourself form the room physically. In my book, detaching from an alcoholic spouse, I talk about making a room (just for yourself or any children in the home) of refuge from the alcoholic; well in some instances it is the same when living with a person who is destructive and abusive with their feelings.
- 8. Be good and kind to yourself. God is with you always, but He helps those who help themselves too. If you don't help yourself overcome your hurdles, God will not think you TRUST or BELIEVE in HIS HEALING.

We help ourselves overcome our hurdles by praying, by putting our trust in Jesus Christ and by KNOWING He is our HEALER and SAVIOR!

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come! 2 Corinthians 5:17

Articles

Detach with Love

Are You a Caterpillar or a Butterfly?

Are We Living the Wise Life? Whom Do You Trust?

Trusting in God for Your Marriage

Love the Person you Are and Hate the Person You've Been

How Do I Detach from an Alcoholic Spouse – this eBook is written for spouses of alcoholics, however the same principles apply to living with an abusive unbeliever; it will show you in detail how to detach from the negative behaviors the abuser puts out towards you and anyone else living in the home. A must read for anyone living with a manipulative, abusive person. Ironically, it is when the enabler (the person who takes the abuse) helps themselves that the abuser, whether they be alcoholic, abusive, controlling, manipulative, angry, or has mental and emotional issues, personality problems that negatively affect others in the home WILL SEE THEMSELVES AS NEEDING HELP!!

And that my friend's is the mystery behind Jesus' teaching of "turning the other cheek". TURNING THE OTHER CHEEK WHEN SOMEONE SMITES YOU IS DETACHMENT WITH LOVE!!!! It is biblical; it is scriptural; it comes straight from the bible; and that is why it works!!

Blessing to all!
Frank and Angie
http://www.heavenministries.com