

## Angie's Marriage Column February 6, 2015

### 5 Main Reasons for Divorce and What You Can Do about It! UNFAITHFULNESS

Since 2002 Year of Our LORD, our ministry has been encouraging and guiding couples to Godly marriage restoration. In that time we have come across everything imaginable when it comes to problems and issues in marriage. We will be discussing over the course of several weeks the top five reasons couple's divorce.

1. Unfaithfulness – physical and emotional
2. Alcoholism – addiction to alcohol
3. Unbelief – Lack of spiritual truth, knowledge, and wisdom
4. Feminism – confusion of roles
5. Lack of Communication/Intimacy

Chances are you have gone through one of these issues in marriage yourself or know someone who has. Now let's talk about what couples can do about these issues that almost always cause divorce and or at the very least, unhappy marriages.

NOTE: We're only going to do one subject a week since they are such involved issues and therefore needs much discussion about. We do not want these newsletters to get too long. Besides that, we already have so much information about each of these issues, so please peruse the Heaven Ministries website for more information. And send this newsletter along to anyone you think might need it.

#### **Unfaithfulness in Marriage – Physical and Emotional**

Unfaithfulness is actually unbelief, however I am keeping it as its own category because unfaithfulness in marriage is so prevalent and most people who say they were unfaithful actually believe they are Christian's. Now, perhaps they are "Christian" in the sense of the word that 85% of people in the U.S say they are Christians. However, according to the bible they are not Christ followers. My next question of course, will raise some eyebrows, "who or what are they following" then?

**Humans have the ability to say no when tempted!** So when someone writes in to our ministry letting us know that the unfaithful spouse believes in God and "goes to church" we cannot help but see how (almost) everyone who "goes to church" has been duped to believe they are Christ followers. It is really disappointing what we are seeing coming out from supposedly "God's people". Please don't misunderstand, we're not saying there are not Godly folks in the churches, but we are saying that mainstream Christianity is not THE church of Jesus Christ!

**When someone is unfaithful in their marriage it means they do not want to say no when tempted.** As Christians God clearly lets us know that He will not allow us to be tempted over what we can bear, meaning, He knows you and your resistance level against temptation, however some people just allow themselves to be tempted because they have no faith in God! It is as simple as that.

To make it more complicated than that would be silly. We either BELIEVE what God says is TRUE for our life and put our FAITH and TRUST in Him, or we put our faith and trust in self. Most folks take the self induced understanding and do whatever they please, without a care in the world, or a care for God, but there will be consequences and as you can see the turmoil of the world today, well...

**There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it. 1 Corinthians 10:13**

**Example scenario of mainstream Christianity:** You are a married Christian woman going to a job every single day where a man flirts with you on a daily basis,

Monday through Friday. And because you work with this man, you also interact with him more than your own husband! You like the attention from him and you eventually begin flirting back until the whole thing turns from an emotional affair to a physical one. To top it off, this man is also married! Adultery is now part of his marriage and your marriage. The adulteress is now sharing her bed with not only her husband but with another man. This woman professes to be a Christian.

What happened? Why would someone who claims to believe in God, commit adultery and destroy herself and her marriage?

**But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his. Romans 8:9**

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Well, because she doesn't REALLY know Jesus. **She is none of his.** She claims to know Jesus by "going to church" on Sunday and tithing and doing all the things that would make her "**appear**" to be a Christian but she really doesn't know what being a Christian requires. She has not sincerely asked Jesus Christ to be her LORD and her SAVIOR. She is still relying on self as her saving grace and when we rely on our own understanding there will always be consequences.

Christianity is not something we "say", nor something we "say we're going to do", it is a lifestyle.

**When we have Christ's Spirit within us HE HELPS US to NOT STRAY from our Marriage. Without Christ we may as well be dead because we are dying.**

**But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you. Romans 8:11**

Christ says this: **we are not to even *look* at another with feelings of lust in our hearts.** Jesus came to bring us the NEW spiritual law which involves having and needing a personal relationship with HIM. You see, without Jesus Christ Spirit **within us** we would not be able to keep the spiritual law. We would LOOK!

***But I say unto you, That whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart. Matthew 5:28*** But now if we have Jesus Christ's Spirit living within us and we ***look*** we can stop ourselves and KNOW that any temptation in our lives is taken care of by our LORD and our SAVIOR - ***There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it. 1 Corinthians 10:13***

NOTE: As we all know it is not just about looking, it is about moral attitude and beliefs. Righteousness comes from the Spirit of Christ within us and if we do not have *that* it means we do not have the Spirit of Christ within our being.

The command "You Shall NOT Commit Adultery" was a good law for the time (without knowing of Jesus being our Savior) but it had no foundation or meaning and so people did not understand why committing adultery was wrong. Seriously folks it's true! They were just given some commandments to follow. There were no consequences to following them and no consequences to not following them. There was no purpose!!

### **Jesus Christ brought us Spiritual Purpose and Meaning into our Lives!**

Well today, thank you God for Jesus; He goes a step further to explain that even the act of *looking* at another inappropriately is **adultery of the heart**. What do you think is going to happen if you continue to look at another with inappropriate thoughts? The thoughts lead to the physical act so anyone who "looks" is just as bad as the one who is doing the act. So then there you have it, adultery stems from spiritual bankruptcy.

Bottom line: If we do not have Christ within us we can't be good! We need God!

***For when we were in the realm of the flesh, the sinful passions aroused by the law were at work in us, so that we bore fruit for death. Romans 7:5***

**What Kind of a Woman or Man Would Be Unfaithful?**

It works both ways, I just used a woman as the depiction but it could be a man just as well. So what kind of a woman would *look* in the first place BECAUSE looking makes a person tempted, right? A non spiritual woman would look, be tempted and then give in to her temptations. Her moral attitude is not with Christ.

In God's world, or should I say *God's way*, a woman would not go outside the home to "go to work" or "have a career". Is it old fashioned to you? Read through the Godly courtship website about the [negatives of a women/wife working outside of the home](#); you may understand a new (old) perspective for thinking when it comes to BEING HAPPILY MARRIED!

The bottom line is if we want to do what's right and NOT conform to the pattern of this world, then we, as followers of Christ need to do something about it!

**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**

Women love to tell us all about the role of a Godly woman in Proverbs 31 and how she goes out into the marketplace which they take it to mean "career" but it is nothing but!! Well, they're interpreting it wrong, or have been deceived by the churches. [Here is what it really says](#). Please read through this slowly and thoughtfully and if you have questions about anything please email with your questions.

We highly suggest that husband and wife either, work together in their own business, or a wife work from home and not have to "go to work" outside of the home for other people. The scenario I depicted above is not a rare occurrence, it is prevalent among married people, (wives and husbands) and they profess to be Christians!! If you still believe that please start reading this bible study all over again.

### **What You Can Do When YOU are Tempted by Someone**

**Do not allow anything to bloom – Everyone is tempted but not everyone gives into it. Giving into your temptations is allowing them to grow.**

1. A person of courage runs from temptation.
2. A person of God would not have friends that would steer them into immoral temptations.
3. A person of God would PROTECT their Marriage vows.
4. A person of God will look for ways to SAVE their marriage from divorce.
5. A person of God sees trouble ahead and figures out ways to get through it, whatever it may take.
6. A person who knows the truth and still walks their own path is not behaving very wise.

### **What You Can Do If You Were Already Unfaithful**

1. Repent and turn your life around. Repentance takes great sincerity from the heart. You yourself have to really want to give up the life of slavery and follow the will of Jesus Christ, your SAVIOR.

Understand that we all have been in a bad place in our lives, and no one is condemning you. But we do have choices. We can decide to conform after the pattern of this world, or we can try to pattern our lives after Jesus Christ. He shows us how!! The purpose for Christ in our lives is so we can have a chance to turn our life around and be good people in Him.

### **What You Can Do When Your Spouse Has Been Unfaithful**

**Understand, you can't change people,** (we can only change self) BUT what you can do is be a good influence to the erring spouse by letting them see how Jesus Christ is working in your life. But Christ must be working in your life FIRST before you can do that.

1. **Keep your direction on Jesus Christ,** only He can give us the comfort we need to get through such a devastating issue such as adultery.
2. **If your spouse has stopped the affair,** try to forgive them for their trespasses. It is very difficult to do but forgiveness is not just for them but for you as well. It is important that we learn to forgive and cope with our marital problems in this life.
3. **Use your emotions properly** and express yourself in good ways to the unfaithful spouse. Yelling, tormenting, belittling, unforgiveness will not GET YOU

ANYWHERE WITH YOUR SPOUSE. They will run from any abuse, if it goes on for months after an affair.

4. **Read and study the bible together.** Get divorce out of your spiritual bank and work together to RESTORE THE MARRIAGE TO GOD!

5. **Be more communicative with one another**, which means SPEND MORE TIME TOGETHER AS A COUPLE, rather than individuals. MAKE TIME for each other!!

6. Understand, marriage is easy when **we MAKE GOD NUMBER ONE**. We have to put God FIRST in our life, otherwise we rely on our own understanding of what we think is right, and we end up straying from the path that leads to God.

Remember what we talked about earlier: If we aren't **following** Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, then who or what are we following?

ALL HEALING COMES FROM God through Jesus Christ, [but you have to want to be healed!!](#)

[Click here for more about adultery](#) and what you can do about it from a Godly perspective.

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

[ADULTERY PANDEMIC: Healing ourselves and Restoring Marriage](#)

[Forgive and Love a Cheating Spouse -](#)

Next week we'll talk about the next problem (alcohol addiction) that is very prevalent among Christians and causes divorce.

Be Blessed through Jesus Christ!

Angie and Frank

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Do you have a marriage question that you want biblical answers to? Let us know and we'll pray about it, research it and answer it with the understanding and wisdom God has blessed us with. It's not what Frank or Angie can do for your marriage; it is between YOU and God. We're just the messengers.

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