Angie's Marriage Column – April 2, 2015

Top Five Reasons for Successful Marriages

- 2. Has Commitment within their moral fiber
- 3. Knows and applies proper position in the home

The top five reasons for successful marriages are:

- 1. Make God Most Important Part of Life
- 2. Has Commitment within their moral fiber
- 3. Knows and applies proper position in the home
- 4. Forgiving (understands what "real" love is)
- 5. Compromise and Resiliency

Today we're going to talk a little bit about commitment. Being <u>truly committed</u> to your marriage means that a person does not have "divorce" in mind at a later time just because things aren't going their way. If there is one bit of hesitation about the person you are going to marry then you really shouldn't get married.

And we're also going to talk about in this marriage column, positions and roles of the husband and wife because it is part of the commitment of marriage. **Knowing where we stand in the marriage as a whole** <u>is the glue that holds the marriage</u> <u>together.</u>

Marriage is not a game; it is the sacred union that God established (for His purpose) with the first marriage being between Adam and Eve. Here's marriage defined by Noah Webster 1828. This is, in our opinion one of the best dictionaries ever published.

MAR'RIAGE, n. [L.mas, maris.] The act of uniting a man and woman for life; wedlock; the legal union of a man and woman for life. Marriage is a contract both civil and religious, by which the parties engage to live together in mutual affection and fidelity, till death shall separate them. Marriage was instituted by God himself for the purpose of preventing the promiscuous intercourse of the sexes, for promoting domestic felicity, and for securing the maintenance and education of children.

Marriage is honorable in all and the bed undefiled. Heb.13.

1. A feast made on the occasion of a marriage.

The kingdom of heaven is like a certain king, who made a marriage for his son. Matt.22.

2. In a scriptural sense, the union between Christ and his church by the covenant of grace. Rev.19.

MARRY IN THE LORD

Remember, Jesus did not say to marry in the LORD for no reason; and is precisely why we need to be <u>extraordinarily careful</u> when we decide to marry and to whom we are going to marry. Marriage is a union for life; there is no divorce, in fact the Holy bible does not even talk about re-marriage as an option; it says in short, *if your spouse doesn't want to be with you anymore, YOU ARE NOT Bound.* You cannot stop them from divorcing you, but you do not have to initiate either. Do you see what we're saying here?

But if the unbelieving depart, let him depart. A brother or a sister is not under bondage in such cases: but God hath called us to peace. KJV Corinthians 7:15

NOT UNDER BONDAGE does not mean that because you can go walk up to the civil court and have some guy behind the counter sign a paper, you are now free to remarry. It doesn't say that, but many folks believe it does. This is why remarriage is called adultery. Let him or her depart. But you are still married to that person.

Whosoever putteth away his wife, and marrieth another, committeth adultery: and whosoever marrieth her that is put away from her husband committeth adultery. Luke 16:18 KJV If a person has any doubts about the person they are going to marry they should not marry. If our lives are not committed to the one we marry we will have many problems in marriage. An uncommitted heart will always stray from the marriage bed, not just in unfaithfulness physically, but in unfaithfulness mentally, emotionally and spiritually. When one part of the "one flesh" marriage strays it causes the other much grief and heartache and eventually CAUSES the other to stray as well.

If a person is married and has doubts then you must pray about it, asking Christ to give you the comfort you need to suffer through any problems you may be going through in your marriage. Because marriage is for life we must set it in our heart and mind to do whatever it takes to make it work by working together as a husband and wife are to work together, according to God, the designer of marriage. That is... wife as <u>helpmeet</u> and husband <u>as the head</u> to create the ship that sails the boat 'in the Lord' and 'with the Lord'. Do you get it, headship?

(My personal note to married women in the world is: Stop fighting with your husband's ladies, you marriage is going to be much better for it. Seriously!! This comes from someone who knows)

As it is (was) husbands were created first; God saw the man was alone and so He created eve to meet him (HELP MEET Genesis 2:18). And Adam said, This is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh: she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man. (Genesis 2:24 KJV)

God did not create Eve first, saw she was alone and then created Adam to meet her. NO, IT IS THE OTHER WAY AROUND. In fact, Eve was made from a part of Adam!! God made man and woman equal but with distinctive qualities that help them to meet each other, sexually, mentally, emotionally, and spiritually!!

Meeting each other's needs through our GOD-GIVEN-CREATED POSITION is what makes marriage tick, what makes the wheels spin, in other words <u>is what makes a</u> <u>blessed marriage.</u>

Knowing and APPLYING our position and roles in the home is what makes marriage work. When we go into marriage based on our feelings (I feel giddy

when I'm with you, or I know that I love you), the marriage will be heading straight down the road to the hot house AND THERE IS SITS MAKING COMPOST UNTIL IT ROTS!

<u>Rather marriage is about our responsibilities to each other through our position</u> <u>as wife and as a husband</u>. We have clear cut roles that need to be met if we want a successful marriage. When a wife "meets" her husband she is being the woman God intended her to be. When a husband loves (protects, leads, takes care of) his wife by being the "head" all areas of the marriage will be provided for and He is being the man that God intended him to be. Wives submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the savior of the body. (Ephesians 22-23)

<u>Click here</u> to see the study on a wife and husbands position: <u>http://www.heavenministries.org/PremarriageStudy.htm</u>

God, the designer of marriage absolutely knew what worked and thus he made wife the helper, which literally means to be by his side, not under him or over him but to meet his headship through respect, kindness and love. Give up trying to control the man you married!! Wives submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord. Ephesians 22

Most marriages start out as, "I'm in love with you" and then end up as "I'm not in love with your anymore". The problem is this is mainstream kind of love that most people understand; it's without any basis and love with no foundation will always be superficial. Couples marry based upon a feeling they think is love and then two years later say they are not in love anymore. Or, to be kind they might say, "I love you" but I'm "not in-love with you". Silly!

Click here to read more about the "in love" and "fall out of love" syndrome in marriages of today: <u>Husband Wants a Divorce, Says He Doesn't Love Me</u> <u>Anymore.</u> What is being "in-love anyway?" That's what I want to know. Love is not something that is for a year or two and then all of a sudden it is no more. Love is something made; something you do; you have to make love; the other stuff, the giddiness, the butterflies, that is the newness of a relationship and for many it's about lust not love.

Understand if love were just a feeling, then why did Christ suffer and die for our sinful wretched lives? Why didn't He just say, "I love you"? Christ shows us what love is through acts of sacrifice and suffering, not through a feeling.

Feelings come and go, but love and commitment for a person live forever.

The kingdom of heaven is not without suffering, and sometimes in marriage we will suffer for doing what is right, what is right by God and for our spouse and marriage. Staying married through the bad times as well as the good is part of that suffering that we might go through *for the Lords sake*. We are married and now we must take responsibility for our marriage by doing what is right in the sight of God and in our Christian walk.

ARTICLES

How a Christian Wife is to be a Helpmeet to her Husband

How Should a Christian Husband submit to His Wife?

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