

Angie's Marriage Column - January 2, 2008

Why Is All Effort of Marriage Done by the Wife?

Question: Why are all the efforts done by the woman to save the marriage and not by the man? Why should always woman suffer in all the aspects even if she is good looking, educated and working? And if not working or good looking still she has to suffer. Why?

Answer: To answer your question straightforwardly, women do not "suffer" because of the men they married but because of the attitude within them. It is not just women who suffer but some married men suffer also. I'm not sure if the word suffer is the correct word to be applying here. The proper word might be "unhappy" or "discontented".

Just because a woman is married she should **never wait** for her husband to make her happy. Although a husband should try and make his wife as happy as she can be through his loving actions, as we all know that is not going to happen in all marriages. So where does that leave the woman? It leaves her to seek well-being and comfort through some other means, which I believe comes from her having a personal and growing relationship with Jesus Christ.

Once a wife / woman feels good about herself and role in marriage she can begin to assert herself with her husband about her feelings in a good way rather than nagging and being bossy. Sometimes she can do that by her loving actions. I do know for a fact that many women feel unhappy or not satisfied in their marriage because they people-please too much, and don't take care of their own needs FIRST. How can anyone give happiness to another if they themselves are lacking love for themselves?

We need to accept love for ourselves FIRST! And that love I'm talking about ONLY COMES FROM JESUS CHRIST!

I have found that when husbands and wives do not take care of their own needs through God first, then they become needy with each other, and that is not good for the marriage.

We should never expect to receive our happiness and inner peace from another - that comes from Christ's Spirit within us. That certainly does not mean you cannot find happiness with the person you married but it means that FIRST be happy within yourself, so you can be happy with the person you married. Once we become whole and complete through Jesus Christ, we do not suffer, but actually become more caring and giving people with those we love and are married too.

I think some women FEEL they are suffering and unhappy because they don't change themselves and do anything about their circumstances. I mean, if your marriage is not doing that great, then figure out what it needs and work on it!

So my suggestion and guidance would be to STOP dwelling on your suffering and unhappiness and find ways to turn your circumstances from negative and unproductive to positive and constructive by giving up CONTROL of the marriage and giving it to God. Stop trying to direct your husband and control the marriage down some path that fits into *your understanding*.

As hard as this may be for you to believe, your understanding (at this time) is not what your marriage needs. I realize that you are hurting because of something your husband may or may not be doing in the marriage, but you do not have to suffer over it!

Do you really know what is best for your marriage? Only God knows what is best. Stop trying to control the aspects of the marriage to make you happy. Once you give up trying to control the outcome of your marriage, God will freely give you the answers you need. Your heart must be ready for the answers or you won't **see the answers**. God knows your heart and knows when you are ready to receive the answers and then you can apply them into your marriage.

Article Resources

Change of Attitude = Change of Heart

<http://www.heavenministries.com/articles/changeofattitudeis%20changeofheart.htm>

Assertiveness in Marriage

http://www.heavenministries.com/articles/assertiveness_in_marriage.htm

Love The Person You Are and Hate The Person You've Been

http://www.heavenministries.com/articles/love_the_person_you_are_and_hate.htm

Until next Wednesday, May God bless you for His glory in His kingdom!
Angie and Frank – Heaven Ministries, marriage ministry.

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