

Angie's Marriage Column – April 9, 2008

How to Relight the Candle of Intimacy

Marriage Question: I been very angry since my husband told me that he does not feel that "in love or that spark anymore" towards me, it was a month ago and I still have that anger. He wants a break or a separation but I have gone to already looking to file for divorce. He loves me to death as the mother of his kids but not as a woman and that kills me. What should I do? Should I give him that time or just do my divorce process. Thank you.

Marriage Guidance: I don't believe that divorce is acceptable because of the way we feel. I would venture to say that 95% of marriages would end in divorce if couples allowed their feelings to take precedent over commitment. As it stands about half of all marriages end in divorce because of the lack of commitment. Most couples, at some point in the marriage will lose that spark that once ignited them to get married in the first place and that is because couples walk their separate ways and do their own thing. Overtime, because of the lack of intimacy, they begin to "feel" they are not "in love" anymore.

We should never throw away our marriage because of negative and selfish feelings. Your husband is being selfish and is confused about his marriage. Are you guys going to allow your negative attitude to control your feelings about each other? Most couples who divorce allow this to happen and they close their hearts off to the marriage. Your husband is allowing his selfish desires to be more important than his responsibility in the marriage. And you are going along with it by thinking about rushing down to divorce court.

You can bring intimacy back into the relationship but that will take effort. Are you both willing to work on getting close with each other again and to love, respect, and honor one another like you did when you were first married? Understand there is a difference between "feelings of love" and "commitment to love". Which of the two are you and your husband living by? What is love to you? Don't confuse LOVE with a feeling of euphoria and elation 24/7.

Love and lust get confused all too often in this world because people have gotten misguided by their feelings rather than doing what is right. For couples to love each other in the proper ways, they first must make God their first love. God is what helps us to understand what love is and how to love others in the proper ways. Do you or your husband have a relationship with the living Christ? Bring Christ into your heart and work off of that love through your actions and words. Your marriage will be restored!

Relight the Candle in Your Marriage

It would be a good idea if you and your husband can find the time to be alone every day, without distractions of any kind, whether it is taking a long walk, sitting down on a park bench and eating lunch together or just simply have alone time to talk and get to know each other all over again. You both have lost touch with each other. It happens in the best of marriages, but it certainly does not mean the marriage is over! That's ridiculous.

I can understand your anger; it hurts to be told by your spouse that they do not love you anymore. But anger is not going to help the marriage and quite frankly it is very rude of your husband to even suggest such a thing. This is where many couples go wrong. They are lead astray by their feelings and the need to feel good all the time.

You can relight the flame in your marriage! I believe all couples should dedicate themselves to each other once a year and rekindled the lost feelings. If a person can fall out of *being* "in love" like some people admit to being, then they can also fall back "in love" once again. It is so easy to lose touch with the person we married. Don't let that happen to you and your spouse.

You can only take care of your part in the marriage. One half of the marriage is your responsibility. What do you think you should do or say to help save your marriage from divorce? When was the last time you complimented your husband? Do you respect the person you married even though you disagree with them sometimes? Can you honestly say that you love your husband unconditionally without the need to have anything in return for your love? Appreciation goes a long way to encourage and build up the person we married. ***The spark in your marriage has left because you both blew out the candle!***

Relight the Candle

A great relationship requires intimate moments. And those moments need your full attention and compassion. You both deserve to be treated with kindness and forgiveness everyday, not just when you feel like it. What can recommitment do for your marriage? It can make it more alive, romantic, intimate, and loving. Learn to share your feelings with each other and communicate productively; talk about issues that are troubling you, or new things you would like to share. Be there for each other! Be supportive of each other's needs! Encourage one another – don't tear one another down!

"Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ. For if a man think himself to be something, when he is nothing, he deceiveth himself. But let every man prove his own work, and then shall he have rejoicing in himself alone, and not in another. (Galatians 6:2-4)

I do not think you should get a divorce and I do not think your husband should separate himself from you. I think you both need to read the article resources below and then come together in prayer and be thankful to God for blessing you with each other. Don't give up on your marriage – fight for your marriage!

In Christ,

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Article Resources:

[Stop Divorce and Recommit Yourselves](#)

[Have You Really Fallen Out of Love With Your Spouse?](#)

[The Intimately Satisfied Marriage](#)

[Romancing Your Marriage](#)

Book Resources:

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