

Angie's Marriage Column - Friday – September 11, 2007

Perseverance in Marriage

Marriage Question: Angie, how do you persevere to continue to pray for your spouse when he wants out one minute and spend times with you the next - am I wrong to keep letting my spouse walk in & out of my life

Response: No you are not wrong at all. I think it would be hard to live with someone who is wishy-washy about their attitude toward the marriage, which sounds like your husband is. Either that, or he also is afraid to get too close in fear of getting hurt for one reason or another. You have not given me very much info to go on and so I can only speculate why your husband would want to work on the marriage one moment and walk out on it the next.

Since I am not sure what to say about it on that end, I can give you the added encouragement to keep yourself spiritually aware by staying focused on Christ. It is not you that perseveres it is asking the Lord to help us in our weaknesses and then it is the Power of the Holy Spirit within us that gives us the faith and strength to persevere. So that's why it is so important to stay focused on Jesus Christ for your attitude and actions in the marriage. We are actually powerless to be the loving and forgiving people to our spouse without Christ in our hearts and minds on a daily basis.

I would have a good talk with your husband and express your feelings about this situation in a good way, always keeping the conversation geared toward you by saying, "I feel like", "I would like to know", "if I could", rather than geared toward him by saying things like, "you are like", "you make me feel", "what is wrong with you", "Why are you so quiet?" "Why are you always walking away or leaving?" When you speak in a finger pointing way, or blaming way, he will shut down and not give you any real answers. What you want to do is first express yourself in a good, productive way, so he will want to return the favor. You see how that works?

For an example: **Say**---"I feel that we should try and spend more quality time with each other so we can have a more fruitful marriage, what do you think?"

Don't say --- "You should try and spend more time with me so we can have a more fruitful marriage, that's what I think!"

Say--- "I think that every time you leave, it makes us more disconnected from one another, and I feel that for me, I could love you more if we could spend more time

together. What do you think?"

Don't Say---"Every time you leave, it makes me disconnected from you. Don't you love me? Why don't you want to work on our marriage? I have a hard time loving you because you are always walking out. What's wrong with you?"

Of course, I do not know your circumstances, so you will have to be ready and prepared with what you are going to say. Communication is a very important part of marriage, and so much can be totally eradicated by productive communication between spouses. Ask God to give you the words to say and the faith to continue persevering **because when you act on God's wisdom you are doing the will of God and that is being Christ-like the way Christian's are to be.**

PS: Dear readers and subscribers: I do respond personally to each and every marriage question I receive, so if you did not get a response from me to your personal email it is because it was blocked by a Spam filter.

Blessings!

Frank and Angie

Heaven Ministries

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