



HOME POINT

BUILDING A STRONG MARRIAGE



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Building A Strong Marriage

We marry because we yearn for a life-long, thriving relationship. How can believers become intentional about building a God-honoring marriage?

PRIORITY ONE: Discover God's Design for Marriage

We must understand every marriage is intended to be a masterpiece reflecting THE marriage between God and His people. Marriage is the most frequent metaphor used in the Bible to describe God's relationship with His people. The marital union of husband and wife is a sacred reflection of the gospel itself.

PRIORITY TWO: Commit to a Covenant Marriage

Today's civil marriages are much like business contracts – easy to get into and easy to get out of. God's covenant with His people was a promise to remain eternally faithful, even if His people weren't faithful in return. In covenant marriage, both spouses are committed for a lifetime – in sickness and health, for better or worse. They don't threaten divorce or consider it as an option.

PRIORITY THREE: Pursue a Passionate Marriage

Couples aren't supposed to just stick it out and find a way to make their marriages survive. God calls us to pursue a passionate, thriving marriage. The Song of Solomon expresses the kind of love, joy and celebration God designed for marriage. That passion is built on much more than infatuation and sexual desire. It is rooted in the physical, emotional and spiritual intimacy God created couples to experience as a foretaste of the eternal unity, communion and intimacy we can have with God.

PRIORITY FOUR: Become Heroic in Marriage

Christ made the ultimate sacrifice to rescue humanity. Writing to the Ephesians, Paul connected Christ's sacrifice directly to marriage: Husbands should love their wives, just as Christ loved the church and served and sacrificed himself for us all (Ephesians 5:25) and likewise, wives should love and serve their husbands (Ephesians 5:24). In other words, love and sacrifice requires giving up our own interests to heroically serve the other person.

PRIORITY FIVE: Fight for Your Marriage

Every couple will mess up. Too often, however, they also choose to give up. Throughout scripture, God fights for His relationship with His people, remaining faithful in the face of unfaithfulness. He forgives again and again. No couple can avoid strife and arguments, but we can avoid giving up this precious gift of marriage by staying focused on our relationship with God, our love and service to our spouse, and our willingness to forgive as we move forward in our relationship.

