



HOW CAN I PUT MY MARRIAGE BACK TOGETHER

By Jay Allbright

Proverbs 14:1; Proverbs 24:3; I Corinthians 7:10, 27

Wise people are busy building up their homes and foolish people are tearing their homes apart. The destruction of the home is at epidemic proportions. Each area of home life is under attack. Child rearing is under attack and there are those in the ministry who deal specifically with that subject. I believe marriage is the foundation to most of the family issues we deal with. Maybe your marriage is on the rocks. Satan has dealt a blow to your home that may be obvious to others or may be only known by you, your mate and children. There are some who may have a wonderful marriage and cannot imagine suffering any matrimonial blows, yet please understand the attacks will come. I would like to help those who are already experiencing problems and prepare those who have not yet experienced them.

BEGIN BY CORRECTING YOUR THINKING

Wisdom is thinking the way God thinks. Wisdom is seeing the world from Gods perspective. It is seeing behind the scenes. Wisdom is seeing what's inside the wall while others just see the painted sheet rock. Wisdom is seeing the building from the builder's point of view. If you are thinking like the world you are probably not thinking right about marriage. If you are thinking the world thinks you are probably not thinking right about marriage problems. You will probably never correct solve your marriage problems until you use some wisdom and quit looking at marriage as the world does and discard divorce as an option.

1. Decide to work out your problems no matter what.

1Peter 1:13 *"Wherefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and hope to the end for the grace that is to be brought unto you at the revelation of Jesus Christ;"*

I had a couple in my church who were having problems and she ended up finding her a boyfriend and decided to leave her husband. One of the problems she had with her husband was that he wanted to serve God and she didn't want to. As hard as this is to believe when she decided to leave her husband for this other guy she actually had friends she went to church with at a different church who encouraged her to get a divorce. When she eventually got right with God and remarried her husband those so called Christian friends actually got mad at her.

2. Begin thinking the way Jesus thinks.

Philippians 2:5 *"Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: How did Jesus think?"*

Matthew 19:4-6 *And he answered and said unto them, Have ye not read, that he which made them at the beginning made them male and female, And said, For this cause shall a man leave father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife: and they twain shall be one flesh? Wherefore they are no more twain, but one flesh. What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder."*

You are not married until you have a covenant not a contract.

A proper marriage vow doesn't say:

“For better, for rich or in health.
I'll love you for the sake of your wealth.
But if get worse, or poorer or sick
I'm going to look for a cuter chick.”

NO

A proper marriage vow says “Till death do us part”

CONFESS YOUR FAILURES

1. You'll never correct your marriage problems by blaming others
Examine yourself:
There is usually some fault on both sides
2. Good marriages are built by two people. Two people who will admit where they are wrong and when they are wrong and try to do something about it. There are three words that every married person needs to learn to say. “I'm sorry honey”, you may say, “I've never had to say that, well it wasn't because you didn't need too.” 1John 1:9 *“If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”*

CONTINUE WALKING WITH GOD

People tend to quit church when they have marital problems. Sometimes the problem is pride. Sometimes the problem is the gossipy, nosy nature of other folks. If you ever need to be in church it's when you need God's help. When trouble comes you start reading the Bible more not less. Hang around Christian friends who encourage you not those who discourage you.

I know of a preacher who put the words “For Sinners Only” on the sign in front of the church. He had people in the church get mad at him and demand that he take it down but he wouldn't. A few Sunday mornings after he put those words on the sign a young lady came to the services. He preached the way he always did and during the invitation this young lady came to the altar weeping. She was saved that morning and asked if she could say something to the church. She told the church, “this morning when I left home I was looking for a place to kill myself. My life had fallen completely apart and I didn't want to live any longer. On my way to a place I knew of out in the woods I passed by this church and I notice on the church sign, “For Sinners Only”. She said, “I am one of those so I came in and I am so glad I did”.

The church is not a mausoleum for saints; it's a hospital for sinners.

If someone is not a Christian, if someone is burdened down with sin, if someone not right with God, when they're in church they're in the right place.

CONTINUE TO COMMUNICATE

Christ and the Church are pictures of the marriage. You can come to the Lord at any time even if you hadn't talk to Him in a long while.

Communication is not “A man with his hand on the TV knob saying, “Hey Beverly, is there anything you want to say before football seasons starts.”

There was a wife so distressed about trying to talk to her husband about the problems they were having with their daughter but it was always him glued to the television set. She finally took a hammer and smashed it. Simply got up, went into the other room, locked the door and turned on the other television set.

A man announced to his wife that he had just bought a new car and she didn't even know he was looking. She could probably tell you of a 100 things they needed and couldn't afford. The day you stop communicating is the day you start tearing your home apart. Communication promotes closeness

CAST FUEL ON THE FIRE OF MARITAL LOVE

People are trying to build happiness with things. Boy meets girl, girl smiles and spontaneous combustion takes place. A fire is lit, we say they're in love and what we really mean is their hormones are excited. True love is more than emotion, true love is commitment. Ephesians 5:25 *"Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it;"*

There is not one of us who can't love his wife or husband. "Well my hormones are not excited, well since when were hormones suppose to hold a marriage together for 60 years. Commitment is what holds a marriage together.

Both of you need to throw the fuel of:

Kindness, praise, being courteous, a home cooked meal, a night out occasionally, an anniversary gift, a birthday card, intimate times together, touching, and kissing (not like the little peck on the cheek you give your mother-in-law).

Someone said, "High heel shoes were invented by a woman that had been kissed on the forehead too much."

Both of you need to throw the fuel of:

Calling home from work, a smile, a pumpkin pie, a flower, a romantic night out together, reading the Bible together, deodorant and mouth wash. What about acceptance (Fat or skinny, forehead bald, middle head bald or whole head bald. Big nose, little nose, buck teeth, bad teeth, good teeth or bridges instead of teeth).

There was a time that it didn't matter that she was so skinny.....

If she got a runner in her nylons her leg would fall out

He had to tease the hair on his legs to get his socks to stay up.

That he had to take two steps before his britches leg moved.

Accept them just the way they are.

"Well she's added a few pounds, have you looked in the mirror?"

"Well he's turning gray, have you looked in the mirror?"

"They've got wrinkles, have you looked in the mirror?"

Well I'm not like that, but when it starts getting cold around your house you'll wish you had fueled the fire. Spontaneous combustion wasn't meant to keep a marriage fire burning forever. Somebody has to throw fuel on the fire, someone has to throw a log on the fire. It's interesting isn't it that the fire doesn't care who throws the long on, it burns the log anyway.

America Incorporated – A New York based agency that specializes in finding lost people said, We are finding wives more than ever before that are running away from home and these wives have said, “we have better things to do than play nurse maid to an ungrateful husband who never praises them or thanks them for anything they do.”

You can throw water on the fire instead of fuel.

The water of:

Selfishness

Comparing your mate to somebody else.

Nagging

Anger

Career more important than your mate

Impatience

Harsh words

Fantasizing about someone other than your mate

Being critical

Cold attitudes

Neglect

Not looking or smelling nice

Moodiness

Talking lightly about unfaithfulness or divorce.

Marriage must be rebuilt every day.

CHANGE WHERE CHANGE IS NEEDED

People say I can't change. Why don't get honest enough to quit saying I can't change and just be honest and say I won't change.

Philippians 4:13 *“I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.*

2Corinthians 12:9 *“And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness.*

Ephesians 3:14,16 *“For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, That he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man;*

The Christian has an outside resource.

We can change!

Luke 1:37 *“For with God nothing shall be impossible.”*