

Marriage...Why Bother?

<u>1 Corinthians 7:28</u>: (NASB) But if you marry, you have not sinned; and if a virgin marries, she has not sinned. Yet such will have trouble in this life, and I am trying to spare you.



Friday was the day to celebrate love! Valentine's day! From the little candy hearts that say "Be Mine" to the big box of chocolates, from the gifts and the cards to the dinners out and the special time together, it was a day of appreciation, a day of expression and a day to be perhaps more vulnerable than normal - not to mention a day that retailers live for! So, what is love? What is marriage? Do they still go together like

a...you know... So, how are we doing these days with love - not just with one day of celebrating, but also with our everyday living in love?



What is the state of marriage today?

(1))1960 and now statistics, Who Needs Marriage, Full Circle Program

- In 1960, the year before Princess Diana was born, nearly 70 percent of American adults were married - 70 percent married. Now only about half are. Eight times as many children are born out of wedlock.
- Well, I think that's largely because the taboos around that have really lessened let's be totally honest. I mean the article even states the fact that it's not so taboo for people to be cohabitating before they're married. It's not so taboo particularly in the west I don't know about other cultures it's not as taboo to bring a child into the world out of wedlock.

Is this alarming or a relief? Are people finally shedding all of those oldfashioned stereotypes or are they heading down a path to destruction?

<u>2 Timothy 3:1-5</u>: (NASB) ¹But realize this that in the last days difficult times will come. ²For men will be lovers of self, lovers of money, boastful, arrogant, revilers, disobedient to parents, ungrateful, unholy, ³unloving, irreconcilable, malicious gossips, without self-control, brutal, haters of good, ⁴treacherous, reckless, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, ⁵holding to a form of godliness, although they have denied its power; Avoid such men as these.

There are movements everywhere that will tell you that marriage in the most traditional sense is simply a relic - something to look back upon but not to look forward to. But marriage has been a core value throughout human history.



The Men's Rights Movement ("MRM") is a growing worldwide movement that seems to exist to counteract the feminist movement.

ー(り)He didn't listen, Marriage Goes South, Man Up MRM

• This is one of these people who claims that he got into this movement and he did so before he was married and was warned thoroughly by the repository of information on what a bad deal marriage is for men that exists on the internet



in the Manosphere in the men's movement. He was thoroughly warned and decided to go ahead and get married anyway. So, this was one of those guys who was like "Oh, men going their own way means men going their own way so, you can't tell me not to get married, which I can." I don't tell anybody - I don't try to demand anybody not get married but I

am certainly doling out advice that you can take which you also can refuse to take, and this is one of those people who refused to take the advice of not getting married and went ahead with it anyway.

The other side of the picture:

<u>Genesis 2:20-24</u>: (NASB) ²⁰The man gave names to all the cattle, and to the birds of the sky, and to every beast of the field, but for Adam there was not found a helper suitable for him. ²¹So the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; then He took one of his ribs and closed up the flesh at that place. ²²The LORD God fashioned into a woman the rib, which He had taken from the man, and brought her to the man. ²³The man said, This is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh; She shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man. ²⁴For this reason a man shall leave his father and his mother, and be joined to his wife; and they shall become one flesh.



Observations regarding the first marriage:

- The noticeable absence of the woman revealed the emptiness man had without her;
- God's creation of woman from man gives a sense of equality and companionship;
- This is AT LAST, *bone of my bone*, etc... Adam's companionship desire is now fulfilled;
- Therefore a man leaves his home and clings Implies a lifelong devotion
 not just for a moment or until you get tired;
- They become one flesh, inseparable and united in every way.

(1) Introduction, The Incredible Love Story of Nick Vujicic and His Wife

• Every now and again in this job you meet someone who, quite simply, makes your spirits soar. That's how I felt when I first met Nick Vujicic. Nick was born in Australia without any arms or legs, yet he lives a life that is more joyful and more fulfilling than most able-bodied people I know. All that was missing from his world was a special lady. Well, four years later Nick is now a married man. Recently he invited me back to Los Angeles to meet the woman who made his life complete.





Are men justified in their negativity towards marriage?

Helen Smith is the author of the book, Men on Strike.

(1) Don't want to lose respect, Six Reasons Men Avoid Marriage, Helen Smith, PhD

• The first reason that men don't want to get married is that they will lose respect. In the past a man wasn't considered a true adult until he was married and had children. Today, however, husbands and fathers are the butts of jokes and the media constantly portrays them as buffoons and bumbling idiots.

We KNOW men and women are wired differently and as a result we are shown different roles:

Ephesians 5:21-24: (NASB) ²¹ and be subject to one another in the fear of Christ. ²²Wives, be subject to your own husbands, as to the Lord. ²³For the husband is the head of the wife, as Christ also is the head of the church, he himself being the Savior of the body. ²⁴But as the church is subject to Christ, so also the wives ought to be to their husbands in everything.

What does this command, *be subject to your own husbands*, mean? Notice how simple this command is without a lot of explanation.

(I))Wants a bailout, Marriage Goes South, Man Up MRM

• And you know, surprise, surprise, his little cupcake decided to act on her hypergamous instincts and is now divorcing him and cheating on him. He messaged me and he was coming on this tone like, "Well, what does the men's movement do for men like me who are in this situation now that can use help? Will the men's movement help me out, help men out, when they really need it in the middle of divorce court or are you guys just going to make a bunch of more videos saying how marriage is bad, etc., etc." So, this is a person who came into this movement who knew the risks of marriage, who was instructed not to get married and now he believes it's now the men's movement responsibility to now dig into their pockets and come to the rescue and bail this guy out.

In principle, this next text seems to be describing the MRM. But with a bitter heart as a foundation, what else would one expect but failure?

<u>Hebrews 12:15-17</u>: (NASB) ¹⁵See to it that no one comes short of the grace of God; that no root of bitterness springing up causes trouble, and by it many be defiled; ¹⁶that there be no immoral or godless person like Esau, who sold his own birthright for a single meal. ¹⁷For you know that even afterwards, when he desired to inherit the blessing, he was rejected, for he found no place for repentance, though he sought for it with tears.

Remember how simple the command to wives was? Now let's look at the command to the husbands:

Ephesians 5:25-31: (NASB) ²⁵Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave himself up for her, ²⁶so that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, ²⁷that he might present to himself the church in all her glory, having no spot or wrinkle or any such thing; but that she would be holy and blameless. ²⁸So husbands ought also to love their own wives as their own bodies. He who loves his own wife loves himself; ²⁹for no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ also does the church, ³⁰because we are members of his body. ³¹For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and shall be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.



ー(リ)Don't want to lose kids and money, 6 Reasons…Helen Smith PhD

• The third reason that men don't want to get married is that they could lose their children and their money. Men are aware of the dangers of divorce specifically that the courts tend to favor the mothers. Men only get custody of their children ten percent of the time and overwhelmingly are responsible for paying child support and alimony.

But what have you done to avoid failure in marriage before it happens?

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Observations about the commands to each party:

- Women LOVE and be subject
- Men LOVE and give yourself up for her
- Men LOVE and care for her as your own body
- Men Your love for her becomes your way of self-preservation
- Men Cherish her
- Men Leave all other ties for her sake

To be "manly" is to rise above selfishness and become self-less.

(I))Pieces missing, The Incredible Love Story of Nick Vujicic and His Wife

• I definitely had doubts that I would ever get married, that I would ever meet anybody who would ever love me and spend the rest of their life with me because I'm Prince Charming with a couple bits and pieces missing. Those things were important, you know, and I would see everybody else has them so why could I ever compete with all the other guys and ever, you know, find my princess?

The answer to the above angst:

<u>Philippians 2:3-4</u>: (NASB) ³Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of mind regard one another as more important than yourselves; ⁴do not merely look out for your own personal interests, but also for the interests of others.

So, what is the real strength of a man in the marriage relationship?

<u>Proverbs 18:22</u>: (KJV) He who finds a wife finds what is good and receives favor from the LORD.

However, this does not mean there is no thinking before the finding: Luke 14:28: (NIV) Suppose one of you wants to build a tower. Will he not first sit down and estimate the cost to see if he has enough money to complete it?

A diligent man puts his thinking into his planning and then builds on that foundation. Marriage is not based on a whim or a feeling. True love is a lifedriving principle of how you act and what you do.

The Ox, Mark Gungor, A Tale of Two Brains

• Now, I want to show one other verse to you. Now you don't have the deep theological training that I have so you might have a hard time understanding this verse. But I'll try and explain it to you. This is found in Proverbs and it goes like Christian Questions ©2014 all rights reserved





this: "Where no oxen are the manger is clean." Let me explain that to you. Okay? What does that mean? What it means is that if you're gonna have an ox, you're going to have ox poo. All right? Now, if you don't like poo - and most of us are not real big fans of poo - if you don't like poo, the temptation is to get rid of the ox!



What kind of things in life can be "poo" in a man?

<u>Proverbs 26:21</u>: (NIV) As charcoal to embers and as wood to fire, so is a quarrelsome man for kindling strife.

Quarreling!



<u>Proverbs 6:6-11</u>: (KJV) ⁶Go to the ant, thou sluggard, consider her ways, and be wise: ⁷Which having no guide, overseer, or ruler, ⁸provideth her meat in the summer, and gathereth her food in the harvest. ⁹How long wilt thou sleep, O sluggard? When wilt thou arise out of thy sleep? ¹⁰Yet a little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to sleep: ¹¹So shall thy poverty come as one that travelleth, and thy want as an armed man.

Laziness! So then, why even have an ox?



(\neg, η) The Ox, Mark Gungor, A Tale of Two Brains

So, why would you keep the ox around? Because he goes to the second half of the verse and says, "Because much increase comes by the strength of the ox." Well now, there's the catch 22. On the one hand we all love the benefit of the ox, but nobody likes the \bigcirc poo! And what he's trying to tell us here is you cannot have one without the other. There is no such thing as a poo-free marriage. It just doesn't exist, unless you shoot the ox but that leads to other problems.



"...no such thing as a poo-free marriage..." There is no perfect marriage anywhere! It is a matter of deciding that this is the road you will both walk on together.

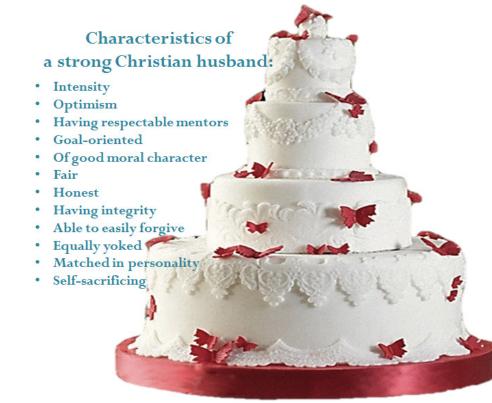
Proverbs 14:4: (KJV) Where no oxen are, the crib is clean: but much increase is by the strength of the ox.

 (\neg, γ) It just felt right, The Incredible love story of Nick Vujicic and his wife

- (Kanae) The moment when I saw him, when I saw his eyes and he smiled you know, I thought to myself, "Oh my gosh, he's so handsome." To me he's definitely Prince Charming. He might not be perfect in the exterior, but he's a perfect match for me.
- (Nick) It was electric, I mean, when she stood by me it just felt right.

What about the strength of the man? Determination and vision: Genesis 2:24: (NASB) For this reason a man shall leave his father and his mother, and be *joined* to his wife; and they shall become one flesh.

To be joined means cling or adhere; figuratively, to catch by pursuit.



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Another use of the word joined (above)

<u>Joshua 22:5</u>: (KJV) But take diligent heed to do the commandment and the law, which Moses the servant of the LORD charged you, to love the LORD your God, and to walk in all his ways, and to keep his commandments, and **to cleave** unto him, and to serve him with all your heart and with all your soul.

Endurance:

<u>2 Corinthians 4:7-11</u>: (NASB) ⁷But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, so that the surpassing greatness of the power will be of God and not from ourselves; ⁸we are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not despairing; ⁹persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; ¹⁰always carrying about in the body the dying of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our body. ¹¹For we who live are constantly being delivered over to death for Jesus' sake, so that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh.

<u>Ecclesiastes 9:9</u>: (NASB) Enjoy life with the woman whom you love all the days of your fleeting life which He has given to you under the sun; for this is your reward in life and in your toil in which you have labored under the sun.





So, what is the real strength of a woman in the marriage relationship?

<u>Proverbs 21:19</u>: (NASB) It is better to live in a desert land than with a contentious and vexing woman.

Women are instinctive givers, generally without thought to their personal cost:

Luke 8:1-3: (NRSV) ¹Soon afterwards he went on through cities and villages, proclaiming and bringing the good news of the kingdom of God. The twelve were with him, ²as well as some women who had been cured of evil spirits and infirmities: Mary, called Magdalene, from whom seven demons had gone out, ³and Joanna, the wife of Herod's steward Chuza, and Susanna, and many others, who provided for them out of their resources.

The "Following Jesus" Lesson: Women as disciples have just as much to offer in the service of the Gospel as men!

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(1)Too romanticized, Marriage Cohabitation Living Together, Canada TV

- In fact, Elizabeth, you think history has romanticized the idea of marriage.
- Exactly. We have romanticized it and we go into this huge decision, unlike if we buy a house we research it and so on. When we go into marriage informed by pop culture, by Britney Spears' songs, and by all sorts of nonsensical fantasies. We don't prepare for it. We don't understand that it's real life. We focus so much on the actual wedding, this huge expensive thing, and then comes the day after and the years after, and it's like, wow, I didn't really prepare for this.

Marriage takes day by day focus.

Whether you are a romantic or not - finding a woman of excellence is life's greatest discovery!

<u>Proverbs 31:10-13</u>: (NASB) ¹⁰An excellent wife, who can find? For her worth is far above jewels. ¹¹The heart of her husband trusts in her, and he will have no lack of gain. ¹²She does him good and not evil all the days of her life. ¹³She looks for wool and flax and works with her hands in delight.

(\neg, γ) Finding a soul mate and other questions, A Tale of Two Brains, Mark Gungor

• What is the key to a successful relationship? It's not about finding the right person. A successful relationship is based on two people doing the right things, and if you'll do the right things you'll succeed. It's that simple. If you don't, you'll fail and that's just equally as simple. The reason why people are struggling so hard today is not because they haven't found the right person, it's because they are doing all the wrong things. So, I think that whole emphasis of trying to find that special cosmic person is a big mistake. That's not to say that single people shouldn't be thoughtful in the process. You wanna find a good person, I mean, don't marry an idiot. People do that all the time. Particularly women.



Ask any great athlete how many hours they put into that one game or performance. For them, the thousands of hours of work for that performance are worth it. That is the same with marriage. The work is worth the blessing!

Do the right things - put your spouse first:

John 13:14-15: (NASB) ¹⁴If I then, the Lord and the Teacher, washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. ¹⁵For I gave you an example that you also should do as I did to you.

Part of a woman's strength is in her maturity and experience:



<u>Proverbs 31:25-27</u>: (NASB) ²⁵Strength and dignity are her clothing, and she smiles at the future. ²⁶She opens her mouth in wisdom, and the teaching of kindness is on her tongue. ²⁷She looks well to the ways of her household, and does not eat the bread of idleness.

Part of a woman's strength is in her example:

<u>Proverbs 31:28-29</u>: (NASB) ²⁸Her children rise up and bless her; Her husband also, and he praises her, saying: ²⁹Many daughters have done nobly, but you excel them all.

(1) The proposal, The Incredible Love Story of Nick Vujicic and his wife

- (Announcer) Ever the romantic, Nick proposed on a yacht in Santa Barbara last year. One potential problem: how to put the ring on her finger. It was solved by Nick's ingenuity. He used his mouth.
- (Nick) I'm going, "Baby can I kiss your hand," (kissing sounds) with her left hand and I put the ring down her finger all the way. She is like, "What are you doing?"
- (Kanae) Biting my finger!
- (Nick) I'm biting her finger.
- (Kanae) Why is he biting my finger?
- (Nick) So, I put it all the way down and I pull back and she sees there's a ring on her and she just her face, her big eyes tears



immediately and I say, "Baby I love you. Would you marry me and spend the rest of your life with me?"

Part of a woman's strength is in the depth of the beauty of her soul:

<u>Proverbs 31:30-31</u>: (NASB) ³⁰Charm is deceitful and beauty is vain, but a woman who fears the LORD, she shall be praised. ³¹Give her the product of her hands, and let her works praise her in the gates.

The secret for both men and women: 20000 in its highest form!

<u>1 Corinthians 13:4-5</u>: (NRSV) ⁴Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant ⁵or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful;



What are some of the **PROBLEM AREAS** of married life and what are the solutions?

MISINFORMATION

(1) Male misinformation 1, Hill Harper, Male Misconceptions

• If you think about it, there's a lot of misinformation that we men spread amongst each other and let's break down a couple of them. #1: It's not that cool for the happily married guys - if you break it down percentage wise guys, if you just do factors of happiness and factors of achievement, etc. are happier in marriage than not. But most guys - if you polled single men and asked them that question, they would say the exact opposite. Why? Because it's not that cool for guys who are married - they don't show up at the corner, having a beer saying, "My wife is treating me so good today." Right? They just keep quiet about it. But the guys, the small percentage that are unhappy, they're very vocal, "Oh she's on my back." "Oh, never get married." "Don't do it." Right? And so a lot of single guys get this misinformation about what marriage really is. They think it's just a woman on your back the whole time.

<u>James 5:12</u>: (NASB) But above all, my brethren, do not swear, either by heaven or by earth or with any other oath; but your yes is to be yes, and your no, no, so that you may not fall under judgment.

HOLDING GRUDGES (ONSTANT (OMPLAINING

Holding grudges and constant complaining are never good things (and often based on misinformation):

<u>Proverbs 19:11-13</u>: (NASB) ¹¹A man's discretion makes him slow to anger, and it is his glory to overlook a transgression...¹³A foolish son is destruction to his father, and the contentions of a wife are a constant dripping.

We need to overcome the weaknesses of both sexes.

LETTING THINGS FESTER

Letting anger or resentment fester - that's going to hurt tomorrow! (And anger and resentment are often based on misinformation.)

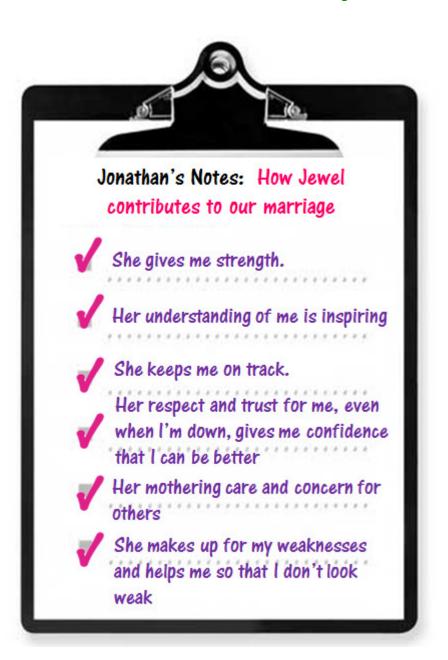
<u>Ephesians 4:25-27</u>: (NASB) ²⁵Therefore, laying aside falsehood, speak truth each one of you with his neighbor, for we are members of one another. ²⁶Be angry, and yet do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, ²⁷and do not give the devil an opportunity.

(1) Hard work not cosmic connection, A Tale of Two Brains, Mark Gungor

• The reason people are expecting marriage to be easy is because of this ridiculous thinking of a "soul mate." The concept is if you'll find the right person, then it's easy. Then they'll automatically know what you need in life and you'll be on the same cosmic wavelength meeting each other's needs which is just ridiculous. If you want someone to meet your needs you need to communicate those needs to someone. Don't sit around thinking, "Gee, if he really loved me then I wouldn't have to tell him." Of course you have to tell



him. Nobody can tell. Nobody's walking around with ESP in their brains. Particularly men. You know, marriage is hard. It's always been hard. The Bible is clear about it. It's not like the Bible is holding out on us.



Generally it is pride and ego that is behind our destructive behavior in a marriage:

<u>Proverbs 16:18-19</u>: (NASB) ¹⁸Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before stumbling. ¹⁹It is better to be humble in spirit with the lowly than to divide the spoil with the proud.

Here is a Scriptural principle that applies to the marriage union:

<u>1 Corinthians 8:1-3</u>: (NRSV) ¹Now concerning food sacrificed to idols: we know that all of us possess knowledge. *Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up*. ²Anyone who claims to know something does not yet have the necessary knowledge; ³but anyone who loves God is known by Him.



This is the selfless, benevolent 'agape' (in the Greek) form of love that we need to have in our marriages.

(1) Dream come true, The Incredible Love Story of Nick Vujicic and His Wife

- (Voice over) If there's anybody in this world who deserves to find happiness, it's Nick Vujicic. He's overcome huge challenges in his life and no doubt there are more to come, but for Nick and Kanae life right now is pretty good.
- (Interviewer) Four years ago we sat on this beach here in Mailbu and we talked about your dreams and hopes for the future. It seems they've come true.
- (Nick) Here we are. It's amazing! Why not? Our dreams do come true, and she's the greatest dream that's ever come true for me.

The Bible has solutions!

1 Corinthians 13:4: Love is patient <3114>

Patient: Strongs #3114 makrothumeo to be long-spirited, i.e. (objectively) forbearing or (subjectively) patient:

<u>Colossians 3:12-13</u>: (NASB) ¹²So, as those who have been chosen of God, holy and beloved, put on a heart of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience; ¹³bearing with one another, and forgiving each other, whoever has a complaint against anyone; just as the Lord forgave you, so also should you.

1 Corinthians 13:4: (NRSV) ...Love is kind <5541>

Kind: Strongs #5541 chresteuomai (khraste-yoo'-om-ahee); to show oneself useful, i.e. act benevolently:

<u>1 John 3:17-18</u>: (NRSV) ¹⁷How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help? ¹⁸Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action.

Is 2000 really the answer?

That depends on how you spell it! Love is spelled C-O-M-M-I-T-M-E-N-T. If you have commitment, you have the ingredient for success. There is no commitment in living together outside of marriage.

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"Commitment," Leann Rimes

Commitment Someone who'll go the distance I need somebody with staying power Who will make me go weak in the knees Commitment And everything that goes with it I need honor and love in my life from somebody Who's playin' for keeps



A caller suggests: Marriage is a long love letter written over time to each other and to God.

<u>1 Corinthians 13:4</u>: (NRSV) ...Love is not envious <2206>

Envious: Strongs #2206 zeloo (dzay-lo'-o) to have warmth of feeling for or against

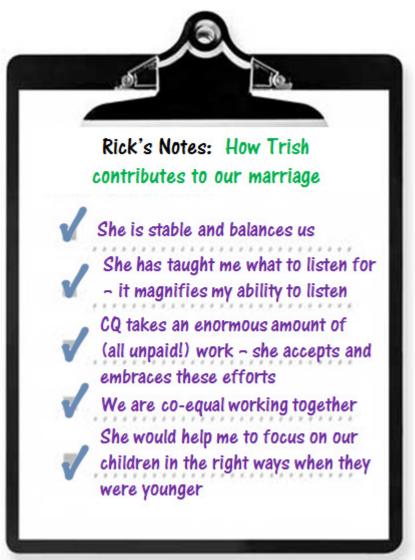
ENVY OF ONE ANOTHER

<u>James 4:1-2</u>: (NRSV) ¹Those conflicts and disputes among you, where do they come from? Do they not come from your cravings that are at war within you? ²You want something and do not have it; so you commit murder. And you **covet something** and cannot obtain it; so you engage in disputes and conflicts.

 (\neg, γ) Longevity for men, A Tale of Two Brains, Mark Gungor

• And statistically speaking, married people live longer than single people. This is particularly true for men. Statistically speaking, one of the most dangerous things a man can do in America today is remain single. It is the equivalent of smoking two and a half cigarettes a day. It's true. They found if you take someone who has two and a half cigarettes a day and the health problems, and the shortness of life, and all these difficulties and a single guy are pretty much the same. I guess the worse would be a single guy who smokes two and half cigarettes a day!





When two people have the same goal, direction and COMMITMENT to one another and to God, there is an incredible power that is unleashed! Who are we to minimize such a thing?

1 Corinthians 13:4: (NRSV) ...Love is not boastful <4068>

Boastful: Strongs #4068 perpereuomai (per-per-yoo'-om-ahee); braggart, to boast

<u>Proverbs 16:18-19</u>: (NIV) ¹⁸Pride goes before destruction, a haughty spirit before a fall. ¹⁹Better to be lowly in spirit and among the oppressed than to share plunder with the proud.

<u>Proverbs 29:23</u>: (NIV) A man's pride brings him low, but a man of lowly spirit gains honor.

1 Corinthians 13:4: (NRSV) ...Love is not arrogant <5448>

Arrogant: Strongs #5448 phusioo (foo-see-o'-o); from 5449 in the primary sense of blowing; to inflate, i.e. (figuratively) make proud (haughty):

<u>1 Corinthians 8:1-3</u>: (NRSV) ¹Now concerning food sacrificed to idols: we know that all of us possess knowledge. *Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up*. ²Anyone who claims to know something does not yet have the necessary knowledge; ³but anyone who loves God is known by Him.



(1))Pregnant, The Incredible Love Story of Nick Vujicic and his wife

- (Nick) Great joy that we're very much looking forward to we're pregnant!
- (Interviewer) Fantastic. Beautiful.
- (Nick) Our son Kiyoshi is on the way.
- (Interviewer) Tell us about your little boy you're having.
- (Kanae) Well, let me tell you it was a big surprise for us. We always said, oh, we're going to wait two years before we have kids and it happened. And this is our baby; it was fifteen weeks, right? Now it's seventeen weeks but it was fifteen weeks when we were there and we could see everything. Both of his hands. Both of his feet. His brain.



• (Nick) Look at that, there are his little hands.

1 Corinthians 13:5: (NRSV) ...Love is not rude <807>

Rude: Strongs #807 aschemoneo (as-kay-mon-eh'-o); to be (i.e. act) unbecoming

<u>1 Corinthians 11:20-21</u>: (NASB) ²⁰Therefore when you meet together, it is not to eat the Lord's Supper, ²¹for in your eating each one takes his own supper first; and one is hungry and another is drunk.

Finally:

<u>Ecclesiastes 4:12</u>: (NIV) Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves. A cord of three strands is not quickly broken.

The marriage vow, according to Scripture, is a covenant made before God. When we intertwine God into our commitment with one another, blessings happens.





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"Commitment," Leann Rimes

Yeah I've had promises broken Three words left unspoken They just left me achin' for more But I've found temptation I won't be impatient There's one thing that's worth waitin' for Commitment And everything that goes with it I need honor and love in my life from somebody Who's playin' for keeps Commitment Someone who'll go the distance I need somebody with staying power Who will make me go weak in the knees Commitment And everything that goes with it I need honor and love in my life from somebody

So, marriage, why bother? For Jonathan and Rick and Christian Questions... Think about it...!

And now <u>even more</u> to think about... only in the Full Edition of CQ Rewind!

"Success in marriage does not come merely through finding the right mate, but through being the right mate." -Barnett R. Bridener



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| | Bliss | and the second |
| | - Commitment: | Without it you have nothing |
| | Loving Acceptance: | Don't try to change your spouse - you married them this way |
| | Respect: | The key building block for a relationship to be able to grow |
| | Maturity and Responsibility | Go past the 50/50 deal - give more |
| A ANTINE | Intimacy: | Needs constant attention |
| | Conflict Resolution: | Seek first to understand - then be understood |
| | Money | Use it wisely - live within your means |
| 19 7 Th | Gender Roles and Sexuality | Men and women are different - opposites attract |
| | Spirituality | Must be developed daily |
| and the second | Regular Marriage Check-Ups | Be open minded to improvement |

Let's finish these verses:

<u>1 Corinthians 13:4-5</u>: (NRSV) ⁴Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant ⁵or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful;

<u>1 Corinthians 13:5</u>: (NRSV) Love does not insist on (demand) its own way.

Ecclesiastes 4:9-12: (NIV) ⁹Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their work: ¹⁰If one falls down, his friend can help him up. But pity the man who falls and has no one to help him up! ¹¹Also, if two lie down together, they will keep warm. But how can one keep warm alone? ¹²Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves. A cord of three strands is not quickly broken.

<u>Philippians 2:3</u>: (KJV) Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves.

<u>Romans 12:3-10</u>: (NRSV) ³For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. ⁴For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, ⁵so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. ⁶We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ⁷ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; ⁸the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness. ⁹Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; ¹⁰love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor.



1 Corinthians 13:5: (NRSV) Love is not irritable <3947> (easily provoked)

Irritable: Strongs #3947 paroxuno (par-ox-oo'-no); from 3844 and a derivative of 3691; to sharpen alongside, i.e. (figuratively) to exasperate:
AV-stir 1, easily provoked 1; 1) to make sharp, sharpen 1a) to stimulate, spur on, urge 1b) to irritate, provoke, arouse to anger 1b1) to scorn, despise 1b2) provoke, make angry 1b3) to exasperate, to burn with anger

<u>Colossians 3:16-25</u>: (NRSV) ¹⁶Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. ¹⁷And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him. ¹⁸Wives, be subject to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord. ¹⁹Husbands love your wives and never treat them harshly. ²⁰Children, obey your parents in everything, for this is your acceptable duty in the Lord. ²¹Fathers do not provoke your children, or they may lose heart. ²²Slaves, obey your earthly masters in everything, not only while being watched and in order to please them, but wholeheartedly, fearing the Lord. ²⁴Since you know that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward; you serve the Lord Christ. ²⁵For the wrongdoer will be paid back for whatever wrong has been done, and there is no partiality.

<u>1 Corinthians 13:5</u>: ...Love is not resentful (thinketh <3049> evil <2556>)

From two different words - literally meaning "does not remember or count wrong."

Thinketh: Strongs #3049 logizomai logizomai log-id'-zom-ahee; to take an inventory, i.e. estimate (literally or figuratively):conclude, (ac-)count (of), despise, esteem, impute, lay, number, reason, reckon, suppose, think (on).

1) to reckon, count, compute, calculate, count over 1a) to take into account, to make an account of 1a1) metaph. to pass to one's account, to impute, to reckon or count injuriously

Evil: Strongs #2556 kakov kakos kak-os'; worthless (intrinsically, such; whereas 4190 properly refers to effects), i.e. (subjectively) depraved, or (objectively) injurious: bad, evil, harm, ill, noisome, wicked.

<u>Philippians 4:8</u>: (ASV) Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honorable, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.

<u>Romans 14:13-15</u>: (NRSV) ¹³Let us therefore no longer pass judgment on one another, but resolve instead never to put a stumbling block or hindrance in the way of another ¹⁴I know and am persuaded in the Lord Jesus that nothing is unclean in itself; but it is unclean for anyone who thinks it unclean. ¹⁵If your brother or sister is being injured by what you eat, you are no longer walking in love. Do not let what you eat cause the ruin of one for whom Christ died.