

Never Walk Alone
Marriages Strengthened
January 12, 2020

Genesis 2:18 Then the Lord God said, “It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper who is just right for him.”

Song of Solomon 8:6-7 Place me like a **seal** over your heart, like a seal on your arm; **for love is as strong as death**, its jealousy unyielding as the grave. It burns like blazing fire, like a mighty flame. Many waters cannot quench love; rivers cannot wash it away. If one were to give all the wealth of his house for love, it would be utterly scorned.

Promise: A declaration I make now that will be needed for the future.

Key Thought: We want to build our lives on principle, not feelings.

3 Promises to make to yourself:

- ✓ I promise to respond, not react.

1 Peter 2:23 When they hurled their insults at him, he did not retaliate; when he suffered, he made no threats. Instead, he entrusted himself to him who judges justly.

Romans 12:21 Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

- ✓ I promise to focus on the good, not the bad.

Philippians 4:8 Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable--if anything is excellent or praiseworthy-- think about such things.

- ✓ I promise to talk, not walk.

Ephesians 4:26-27 Do not let the sun go down while you are still angry, and do not give the devil a foothold.

Genesis 2:24-25 Therefore a man shall **leave** his father and mother and be **joined** to his wife, and they shall become **one** flesh. And they were both naked, the man and his wife, and were not ashamed.

4 Promises to strengthen your marriage:

1. The promise of priority.

Matthew 6:33 But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

Ephesians 5:25 Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her.

Key Thought: Things that destroy many marriages are not bad things; they are good things that are out of order.

2. The promise of pursuit.

Proverbs 14:23 All hard work brings a profit, but mere talk leads only to poverty.

Revelation 2:5 Consider how far you have fallen! Repent and do the things you did at first.

3. The promise of partnership.

Matthew 19:5-6 “For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh.” So they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate.

Key Thought: The devil wants to divide, but God wants us to be strengthened by our differences.

Ephesians 5:21 Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.

4. The promise of purity.

Ephesians 5:8-11 For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light... Have nothing to do with the fruitless deeds of darkness, but rather expose them.

Proverbs 28:13 Whoever conceals their sins does not prosper, but the one who confesses and renounces them finds mercy.

Walk Away: In order for relationships to work, let the One who designed them define them.