



A LOVE THAT LASTS

Building a Solid Marriage
February 11, 2024

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God's Plan For Love In Marriage Is A Love That Lasts

- **(Mat 19:3-6 NIV)** *Some Pharisees came to him to test him. They asked, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife for any and every reason?" (4) "Haven't you read," he replied, "that at the beginning the Creator 'made them male and female,' (5) and said, 'For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh'? (6) So they are no longer two, but one. Therefore what God has joined together, let man not separate."*

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Marriage Is To Be A Permanent Union

- **(Mat 19:6 NIV)** " ... *they are no longer two, but one. Therefore, what God has joined together, let man not separate.*"
- *Permanence Is Central To The Purpose Of Marriage*

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All Marriages Go Through Seasons

- **Romance** *Is The First Season*
- *Romance Is The Season That Most Love Songs Are Written About*

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Reality *Is The Second Season Of A Marriage*

- *Being In Love Is What Romance Is All About*
- *Choosing To Love Is What Reality Is All About*

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Resentment *Is The Third Season Of Marriage*

The Marriage Blame Game Starts Here

- *For Her: Everything Is His Fault*
- *For Him: Everything Is Her Fault*

- *The Couple Can't Agree On How To Deal With Their Issues*

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(Col 3:12-14 NIV) ... clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. (13) Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. (14) And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.

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Rebuilding *Is The 4th Season of Marriage*

- *“Every **Good** Marriage **Needs** A Season Of **Rebuilding**”*
- *Every **Great** Marriage **Has Gone Thru** A Season Of **Rebuilding**”*

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Myths Of Marriage

- ***Myth 1: We Expect Exactly The Same Things***
- ***Myth 2: Everything Will Get Better***
- ***Myth 3: Everything Bad In Will Disappear***
- ***Myth 4: My Spouse Will Make Me Whole***

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The Three Great Skills Of A Love That Lasts:

- 1. Remembering*
- 2. Asking*
- 3. Deciding*

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- ***Critical Skill #1*** *In Rebuilding A Marriage, Remembering That We're Different, And Adapting Accordingly*

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#1 - Remember That Men & Women Have Differences

- *(1) Men Talk In Generalities; Women Talk In Specifics.*
- *(2) Men = Thoughts >>then >>Feelings
Women = Feelings >>then>> Thoughts*
- *(3) Men And Women Have Very Different Ideas On How Spare Time Should Be Spent*

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#2 - Asking And Granting Forgiveness

- *Lack Of Forgiveness Can Imprison You*
- *Until You Forgive You Will Stay Miserable*
- *Forgiveness Is A Gift You Give Yourself*
- **(Eph 4:32 NIV)** *Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.*

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#3 - Deciding To Love And Keep On Loving

- *Love Is Not An Emotion*
- *Love Is Not A Feeling*
- *Love Is A Decision!*

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- ***Starting Over Isn't Easier Or Better.***
- ***We Need To Learn How To Rebuild Marriages!***

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Building A Solid Marriage Challenge:

- *Couples: Renew Your Vows To Each Other*

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Solidify Your Relationships For Singles:

- *Affirming Differences In the Opposite Sex*
- *Forgiving Others*
- *Deciding To Love And Keep On Loving*