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MARRIAGE WITHOUT TEARS

**Understanding and Strengthening
The Relationship
Between Husband and Wife.**

Author

“The Ingredients That Make Marriage Sweet”

CONTENTS

1. DEDICATION
2. FOREWORD
3. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

5. THE REAL HOME
6. THE FOUNDATION OF MARRIAGE
7. THE TRUE MEANING OF MARRIAGE
8. FALSE CONCEPTS CONCERNING MARRIAGE
9. THE MARRIAGE JOURNEY
10. WHEN THERE IS NO WATER
11. WHEN I WAS A CHILD
12. SALVATION GUIDE
13. THE KINGDOM OF KNOWLEDGE
14. OUR VISION
15. THE KINGDOM OF BOOKS

INTRODUCTION

Marriage is the oldest institution on earth that was established by God, yet the most attacked by the devil and his human agents. When God said that it is not good for a man to be alone, He did not leave man without that good provision. He provided a wife for the man and expected them to live up to His standard.

Marriage without tears is a Holy Ghost oriented book and it is God's desire to heal and build homes that has been invaded by the enemy through many ways.

God has a purpose in making marriage, it is to produce families that will worship and praise Him. Yet the devil has caused a lot of tears in many marriages. He has gone to the extent of creating divorce among many homes. When the joy and happiness of marriage is taken away no one wants to live together again. No vehicle can move properly without oil in the engine, so is every marriage that lacks love, peace, wisdom, understanding and the knowledge of the Holy One.

Many rush into marriage without knowing the true meaning of marriage. They abuse it and bring shame to God's good intention for marriage. God is looking for excellent homes, such that bring joy into His heart, but many walk in the flesh and bring destruction and shame to themselves.

Any marriage that is not founded in Christ can never experience the real peace of God. There may seem to be peace on the surface, but the real peace comes from Christ. Do you need a lasting and happy home? Do you need a mini heaven on earth as a family? Do you want to see God's kind of peace that passes all understanding? Hand over your home to Christ completely, leave Him to lead and rule the home. Christ is the only power that can crush crises when it comes into the Home. There should also be understanding between the couples.

Your yesterday may have been bad, but you can change the plan of the enemy in your home. It is not late, your today and tomorrow has great and wonderful future to offer to your marriage. You can smile again.

CHAPTER 1

THE REAL HOME

The time of ignorance has gone. The veil that the devil has placed on the eyes of many people must be removed for them to see clearly and understand the mind of

God concerning a happy and lasting marriage. The real home where God reigns is that which he begins. God's glory must be found in your home if you want to enjoy your marriage. Give God a chance to direct to your marriage and it shall be well with you.

THE BUILDER IS GOD

*Except the Lord build the house, they labour
in vain that build it: Except the Lord keep the city,
the watchman waketh but in vain.*

Psalm 127:1

Building anything without God is so dangerous and so any marriage that has not God as the architect and builder labours in vain no matter the human knowledge or wisdom applied. Stop sweating in vain, you can't make a good home with your maker. You are just a co-labourer with God. You are God's husbandry, you are God's building. You can never lay any other foundation than which God has laid. Without Him you can do nothing.

There are a lot of regrets and tears today in many marriages because of building outside God. You can never make God your enemy and live in peace. Many people cry out with tears today saying, indeed I have made a great mistake in my marriage; I have married the wrong person. Others say, infact I am enduring this marriage, I will divorce, while some say I am just enduring this marriage, I am in fire I can't continue this way. There are a lot that have concluded it this way; I invited the problem to myself I have to endure it, Oh! What a great agony and great mistake in marriage.

In a recent seminar, there were cries and wailing with pitiful tears with this great question, can there be "**MARRIAGE WITHOUT TEARS**"? My answer was emphatically **YES**.

God has stated in His Holy Bible work must crack, break, fall apart and fill with tears. It is better not to marry until you find the will of God than to marry and have hell fire as a home. The product of haste is always a material of mistake. Take time to choose the bone of your bone and the flesh of your flesh. Many have tried to go about marriage so quickly missing God's will and ended up in tears. Many old and falling marriage partners put fears in the heart of the young ones, they say, "we

are looking for a way to come out and you people are trying to come in". It is a mess to listen to such hellish words filled with fleshy wisdom. The devil that destroyed the obedience of Adam towards God is still going up and down seeking the man he will destroy his love towards his wife or the woman he will destroy her submission towards the husband. Marriage is sweet and it is best thing every man and woman need to experience. One big man said, **WOMAN MEANS, "WOE TO MAN" or "WOE MAN"**. This is a big nonsense. This is a fabrication of Satan. Satanic invented words. God can never give woe to his beloved child, except you deserve woe. Youngsters, go on and marry a person of your choice according to the will of God. Do not be moved by the words of men that are falling away from faith but on the word of God.

BUILDING ON A SOLID GROUND

Therefore whosoever hearth these saying of mine, and doeth then, I will liken him to a wise man, which built his choice upon a rock. And the rain descended, and the floods come, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock. And every one that hearth these sayings of mine, and doeth them not, shall be likened unto a foolish man, which built his house upon the sand: And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon the house; and it fell: and great was the fall of it.

Matt. 7:24-27.

The word of God is the sure foundation for any marriage that must last, and without tears. Good foundation layers never lay on the sand, they lay on a solid foundation. Any foundation layer that lays on the sand suffers a great loss when the rains, floods and winds come against the house. Whether a house is founded on the rock or on the sand, it must be faced with these three great destroyers, but where the house is founded determined what happens to the building. So what happens to marriage is determined by the foundation you lay.

Marriages that are found on the ROCK, that is JESUS-CHRIST may be attacked by the devil or evil minded people, even friends some times attack such

marriage abide forever. As Jesus cannot fail, such marriage cannot fail either, because of Christ.

The word of God is the **SOLUTION** to every marriage problem. Divorce is not the best solution to any marriage that is facing hard times or attacks from the devil. The journey of marriage is a long and far journey; it needs perseverance, love, understanding and patience. Look forward for the best in your spouse. Do not divorce, if you do, you will be destroyed by the devil, and that is all his plan for you, but God wishes you the best blissful marriage by constant love-communication, speaking good things to one another in love. Seek out for new things for your spouse.

DESTROYED FOR LACK OF PROTECTION

He that hath no rule over his own spirit is like a city that is broken down, and without walls.

Prov. 25:28.

The failure of today's marriage is caused by the failure to follow God's plan for the home. Thousands of children every year in every nation are orphaned by divorce. Certainly these homes has failed. They needed nothing but God in their homes. Lack of control, ignorance, lust of the eyes, that of the flesh, and pride of life must have caused these great failures.

THE WORD OF GOD AND THE DOCTRINE OF MAN

The Bible says

Husband, love your wives, and be not bitter against them. Col. 3:19.

But the doctrines of men say

Husbands, love your wives when they are young and when they look good, but when they are old, then breasts gone down, wrinkles on the face, be bitter against them and divorce, look for another young, fresh and breasts pointed ones.

The Bible says

Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands as it is fit in the Lord. Col. 3:18.

But the doctrines of men say

Wives, submit yourselves to your own husbands when there is money and things are fine and the house filled with good things, but when there is no money and things is not working like before, submit to another man, disrespect, dishonour, your husband and if need be divorce and look for another man who can care for you.

The Bible says

Children, obey your parents in all things: for this is well pleasing unto the Lord.

But the doctrines of men say

Children, obey your parents but don't be ruled with this Bible that is filled with a lot of laws, we are in the modern world, it is time to enjoy life. Whether it pleases the Lord or not, it is not my business, I am young and must enjoy.

OBEY AND LIVE

And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is

profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:

2nd Tim. 3:15-16.

Listen to the word of God and live. Every disobedience attracts the curse of God and anything contrary to what God has said in his word is diabolic, fleshly and hellish, sure it will lead to eternal destruction.

WHAT PROFIT DO YOU HAVE

For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?

NOW: WITHOUT WASTING TIME

- Let's bring our families back to the Word of God.
- Let's build a strong love between us husband and wife.
- Let's build a strong and lasting marriage and home.
- Let's prepare our families against the spirit of divorce.
- Let's build a strong hold against marriage destroyers
- Let's bring up our children in the fear of the Lord.
- Let's build a strong force against husband and wife snatchers.
- Let's make our home a mini-heaven on earth.
- Let's renew the joy of our marriage life.
- Let's build a determined and purposeful home where God dwells.

Love plus submission plus obedience plus good service equals to **GOD HOME:**

IT IS POSSIBLE, IT MUST HAPPEN, IF GOD BE FOR US, NO POWER CAN PREVAIL AGAINST OUR GOD'S GIVEN HOME.

CHAPTER 2

THE FOUNDATION OF MARRIAGE

And the Lord God said, it is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him.

Gen. 2:18.

God is the author of marriage. He was the first person that initiated it and of course He blessed the first marriage. He said “it is not good for a man to be alone”, he decided to do something for man to stop his loneliness and discomfort.

When God created everything, he told them to produce their kind but Adam could not do such because he has no resemblance as every other creature were made male and female.

And God said. Let the earth bring forth the living creature after hid kind, cattle, and creeping thing, and beast of the earth after his kind; and it was so.

Gen. 1:24.

When God commanded every creature to produce after their kind, God know that man was having nothing to produce after his kind. God can never make any mistake. He that gives people knowledge shall he nor know?

The love that God has for the man compelled him to prepare for the man a helper fit for him. He needed a companion who can be fellowshiping with him too like other creatures.

And the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam, and he slept: and he took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh instead thereof; And the rib, which the Lord God has taken from man, made he a woman, and brought her unto the man.

Gen. 2:21-22

It was possible for God to take the rib of Adam without making him to sleep, but God wanted to surprise Adam with a wonderful gift he has been waiting for. Every creature of God has desire more especially human beings. God knows the mind and the need of every man. May the Lord give you a good sleep and peace in the time of need. If you have peace and sleep well, casting your cares upon the Lord

he will always surprise you in time of need as he did to Adam. May the Lord see you through in Jesus Name. The miracle of Adam was inside him, but he needed God alone to give him that miracle he needed. Stop struggling and sweating, God is able to provide you a wife as you trust and obey him daily. He will give you a breakthrough to have your wife or husband at the time appointed. God took time to create Eve while Adam was asleep. God was not in a haste neither was Adam in a haste. Adam rested in order to receive the exact thing he needed from God, the person that can work with him, a real helper fit for him. All this is so, he can accomplish the mission of God in his life.

It was God that brought Eve to her husband. He did not just say, I have finished creating you go and meet your husband. That would have been strange to Adam since he has not seen a person like himself before, just like many girls go up and down to attaching themselves to man without God’s approval. Exposing their nakedness with the attire of harlots. Prov. 7: 6-10.

And Adam said, this is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh: she shall be called women, because she was taken out of Man. Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh. And they were both naked, the man and his wife, and were not ashamed.

Gen. 2: 23-25.

The blessings of the Lord gives joy and happiness, it does not add any sorrow. The devil will never give any one some thing that brings a lasting joy and happiness. Adam was in God’s programme, he could not do otherwise. By his experience you can feel the laughter in his mouth and the enthusiasm on his face. He said, “This is now a part of me”. God has done it for me, he said. He is the beginner, the author, the institutor of marriage. Did God begin your own marriage? Think about that. If not, get back to God to help you out. You don’t need to break your marriage but rather take it to God to rebuild it.

The bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh was Adam’s first statement. This one belongs to me. Like many boys will go up and sharing their strength with petty harlots that they call girl friends. Adam and his wife cleaved together, as one flesh,

having one mind and one soul. Living together as husband and wife. Naked they were, but not ashamed because God was the author of their home. Gen. 2:25.

God will ever repeat what He has said concerning marriage again; He knows it is not good for you to be alone. But wait for God's time to come. If God gives you a deep sleep, don't wake up until God has finished making your Eve. Don't go for a strange Eve until God brings you your real wife. To haste for anything is to choose the wrong thing. Do not be in haste. Wait for God. Psalms 27: 13-14.

Adam declared and said, this woman is exactly like me. She is taken from me, we look a like, we are the same and we are one. Have you ever thought this of your own wife? Or are your eyes still out-siding looking for other women? Can you say like Adam, I must cleave to my wife and nothing shall by any means separate us. If God lay the foundation of your marriage there is no wind nor storm that can pull it down. The marriage of Adam was officiated by God. Is your marriage official? Does your wife's family know about your marriage? Has God given you His blessing? If marriage must be strong, God must be the founder.

Can there be any marriage without God? If there is any, God is not interested in it. God knows the desire of man and how to meet it. The Psalmist said, what is man, that God would be mindful of him, and the son of man that God visits him? He made man a little lower than angels and has crowned him with glory and honour. You made him to have dominion over the works of your hands, and has put all things under his feet. How excellent is the Lord in all the earth. Ps. 2:4-6, 9.

This is what God has done for man and a lot more he knows the desire of man. Marriage union makes the man and woman one flesh and inseparable. The foundation of every marriage must be laid by God. Many people defile themselves before bringing their marriage to God. They pick a girl and ask God what do you say about this one? Can we play with our God that way? It is a course to live in sexual sin before bringing your marriage to God.

So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him, male and female created he them. And God blessed them, and God said unto them, be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish, fowls and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth.

Gen. 1:27-28.

God blessed the family of Adam before they engaged themselves in any sexual and other activities together. He could not tell them to be fruitful, multiply and replenish without sealing their home with his glory. Whatsoever is done in the secret must be known in the open. The foundation of every good marriage is God. No God in your home no good and lasting marriage.

CHAPTER 3

THE TRUE MEANING OF MARRIAGE

Marriage is God's divine institution, made for man and woman not for a man and women or for women and one man. A divine performance till death do part. A divine union for fellowship and companionship.

And the Lord said, it is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an helper meet for him. And the rib, which the Lord God had taken from man, made he a woman, and brought her unto the man.

Gen. 2:18, 22

Anything that God says that it is not good, cannot be amended by man. God decided that the man will not be alone. For God, he knows that enjoyment of companionship he will always say, come let us, he does not like working alone, even in the gospel we are co-labourers with God. When God says something is bad, he does something good about thing immediately. He did it for Adam when he saw that his loneliness couldn't help him. One of the true meanings of marriage is to create an atmosphere of warmth for the man, that man might have a helper. Apart from Adam enjoying the woman she was brought to him, ending his loneliness, the woman also must have gotten something in mind, since there were animal and other creatures and it is only one man that resembles her, sure I know she must have said in her heart, this man looks like me, we can live together, loving ourselves, playing and doing other necessary things together, this is my companion; a lover, a friend and fellow human being. She has feeling too. She came up and as she brought to Adam, as a being with normal reasoning, she knows no other creature can be too close to me like this man, if so then I need him most in my life after God.

God was showing us a miniature of the church, the body of Christ. The home or marriage is a true example of Christ union with his body the Church. Eph. 5:23-33. The true love that was demonstrated by Jesus Christ towards his body is the real affectionate love that is needed in every home that must stand the test of marriage.

SEVEN BASIC PURPOSE FOR MARRIAGE

1. To have a helper fit for the man Gen. 2:18, Prov. 31(a) 10-12.
2. To have constant warm fellowship. Ecc. 4:9, 11.
3. To have a good and constant companion Gen. 2:23, Eccl. 4:10
4. To have a good comfort at all times, especially in time of difficulties

Gen. 24:67.

5. To enjoy good sexual relationship without interference of anybody Gen. 2:25, 1 Cor. 7:3 – 5.
6. To end loneliness Gen. 2:18, Eccl. 4:11
7. To multiply and replenish the earth Gen. 1: 27- 28.

If any marriage is lacking these seven basic things; the true meaning is lost. God does not engage in an unprofitable work. His purpose for making all these available is to have **MARRIAGE WITHOUT TEARS.**

Marriage first is honourable, from its traditional foundation to the government and the church blessing. Your marriage is a great thing in the sight of God. Even if the marriage was traditionally made before repentance, it is honourable and acceptable in the sight of God, all you need to do is to discuss with the minister in charge of your church to bless your marriage. I have heard some people saying that when you marry before repentance, you can change and pick another spouse; this is the doctrine of the devil. It is from the pit of hell-fire, every marriage that is officially accepted by the parents of the girl is honourable in the sight of God. Many mistakes may have been made before the Lord Jesus entered into the home, yet the marriage is acceptable by God after careful repentance and confession of sins, God is not an author of confusion. Hence you are joined with a woman that the parents of the girls accepted the union, even if you have not paid any thing, and the parents consenting to your living together, it is honourable in the sight of God. Let no man deceive you to go away from your marital home. God is only against defilement.

A. UNDEFILED BED IF THE BEST

*Marriage is honourable in all, and the bed undefiled:
but whoremongers and adulterers God will judge.
Heb. 13:4.*

If you defile your marital bed, God will judge you. That means you are a sinner, condemned for hell-fire, except you repent and confess it to God. Anything that has to do with sexual immorality has the judgment of God upon it. God is not mocked, what you sow is what you reap. Marriage must be carried out in a high holy estate. If you are pure in heart, then you will see God in your marriage, but and if you decide to do the contrary, then the devil will ruin your home, God must judge whoermongers and adulterers.

Marriage is honourable before God. When a man finds his heart desire in marriage, he has found a good thing and obtained a great favour with God. To obtain favour here, I call it breakthrough with God. Divine open-door fro heaven. God looks at you with different eyes; you have obeyed his commandment, fulfilling the Word of God. Your joy will have no bound, the blessings of the Lord will begin to pursue you and overtake you. Your marriage will be most honourable if you go through the right way. God honours those that honour him, He can never give you a serpent for fish, neither stone for bread nor even scorpion for an egg. If we that are human can desire good things for our children, how much more our heavenly father, when you make him head in your marriage, he will make your marriage to be above and not beneath. If marriage must be honoured, God must be there. Those that dishonour God in their marriage shall least be esteemed by God, even their marriage shall be an abomination before God.

CHAPTER 4

FALSE CONCEPTS CONCERNING MARRIAGE

The Bible is the word of God, and it is meant for every body. The freedom that God has given us has made it possible that any person can buy the Bible and read, yet many have turn it to their own destruction, misinterpreting and misusing the passages of the scriptures to justify their wrong doings and covering up their iniquity.

Marriage which is God's institution has been changed by many to the tradition of men and intellectual disorderliness. A lot of people have decided to go their own way leaving the real ordinance of God concerning marriage.

There is a way that seemth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the way of death.

Prov. 16:25.

The ways of man are always those that lead to destruction. Marriage without God equals to hell-fire. Seek your way, go your way, but there will only be regrets at the end of the road.

EARLY MARRIAGE BECAUSE OF UNIQUE SON

One man was saying one day, seeing we have only one child in the family, let us marry for him quickly to produce children for us; incase if anything happens to him we will have our grand children. It is wrong. Marriage is made for matured people, not for teenagers who cannot control their home. A man has to make decision to know the type of woman he wants to marry, he has to be matured enough to get the real person. If parents for the sake of fear of death, because of unique son marry for their son, when he grows; he may likely reject the woman, and it has happened in many places, and such woman were later disappointed in life.

MARRIED TO STOP PROSTITUTION OR SATISFY CONSTANT SEXUAL DESIRE

Someone said sometime ago, "Pastor, infact I have sex with a lot of women, when ever the desire comes up, I cannot resist it. I want to marry to stop that habit.

Yes, it is good to marry if you are matured, and prepared financially and materially. But there is spirit in charge of constant sexual desire, being unable to control self, and this spirit can be carried from one woman to another. When the demon is cast out, then such a man can live with one woman; if not when you finish with a black woman; as a fair woman passes, the desire will come up again. Even women that go from one man to another seeking to be married, after the marriage, the habit can only be stopped if such is yielded to Jesus Christ.

Marriage is not a way to stop flirting or constant sexual desires. When the desire is accomplished, the woman may look ugly, if I am to add more, she will look old before you, you may think of abandoning her except when desire comes up again.

Proverbs 18:20

Marriage must be according to God's will and purpose or it will be a mere satisfaction of fleshy desire which will soon end.

MARRIED BECAUSE OF WEALTH

PROV. 28:20
1 TIM. 6: 6-10

Now, you have money, go and marry, that is always what many parents tell their children. By such hurry and constant pressure they enter into a wrong marriage. Such marriage ends with tears. You must know God's plan concerning you, immature people produce childish and immature marriage. Even girls should not marry somebody because of money; such marriage may end in tears and divorce. You must be sure that you are in God's divine will, when money pushes you into marriage, when the money is no more there you can not stand the fire. When money has finish, then **GULF WAR** begins in the home. Marriage is not a sign of wealth as many think it to be. Many foolish women allow themselves to marriage to one man, sometimes five to ten women having gone man, what can you enjoy in such a trouble packed family.

Don't think because you have many things and you are wealthy you can marry as many wives as you want, God is not a fool, after giving Adam all the wealth he created, he gave him only one woman, he could have created many woman to help

Adam dress the garden, but he gave only one. The more wives you marry because of wealth, the more you increase your sorrows.

MARK 10:6-7

MARRIED BECAUSE A COOK, STEWARD OR WORKER IS NEEDED

I need a cook, I need a steward, I need a worker, I have suffered so much. I need somebody to take over this job from me. If that is all you need was the reply given to a young man that was complaining, you don't need a wife, employ someone to help you, your desire will be manifested in your marriage, when all you need are not accomplished then you will begin to look for a solution. If she cooks fine, then she can stay, if not she can go. Actually the woman you marry under this condition is not a wife but a cook and steward. Change your thought, you need a wife who can help in many area, not a cook or steward but a wife.

MARRIED TO FULFIL CULTURAL OR TRADITIONAL RITES

In some villages or towns marriages are done to fulfil traditional and cultural rites and obligations.

Such people do it to enter into a particular age group or other to receive a particular title. If that aim is achieved, the woman becomes useless. The immediate value is to achieve any of the above. You can not change the word of God. The standard of God in marriage is not to fulfill traditional and cultural rites, when God's way is neglected, man's way fails.

I MARRIED A NEW WOMAN FOR MY HUSBAND SINCE I HAVE NO CHILD

Gen. 16: 1-6, Gen. 21: 9 - 11

A woman can never marry another woman. It is wrong in the sight of God, such marriage is not honourable. The companionship of two partners is for a man and woman, even if there is no child yet, god is capable of making any family to have children. It is an abomination for a woman to marry a woman.

PSLAM 113: 9

God is an expert in making barren women to have children. No woman should think, because I am now old and have no children, let me marry a woman and keep for men to raise children for me. Such a marriage is from the devil and can only produce vagabonds in the society. Any kind of man come in to have sex with such a woman, even some foolish men accept to stay with such a woman so as to raise children for that woman and after they are paid or are taken care of. The devil wants to change God's word to his own doctrines, but the word of God abides for ever. Nothing can change it.

I WAS ATTRACTED BY BEAUTY OR HANDSOMENESS

If a woman is beautiful, that is good and if a man is handsome that is good too, but what is more important is the fear of God in the life of a person. Physical attraction has deceived a lot of men and women, and they are suffering seriously today in their homes. Physical beauty and handsomeness can fade away when bad character comes out. All that glitters are not gold. Be careful with beauty and handsomeness, except God is there to lead you, if not quit and look for the right person, if you have entered, there is no way of going back, divorce is not the best answer. Those things that your attentions are vain.

PROV; 27:20

Just as hell and destruction are never full, so the eyes of men and women are never full to desire good things. If the physical attraction is what is pushing you to marry, you will soon find another that is better than the other one.

I MARRIED BECAUSE OF PITY

This girl is an orphan and has no helper, and then I decided to marry her to help their family. That boy is suffering, since I have money let me help him to marry me. If God is not there, that is not the right way to marry, except the Lord builds a

house, the people will only suffer and struggle in vain. The person that is suffering, when he or she is filled up now will begin to look for his right, and then carnal wisdom will begin to appear. It is the duty of God to help an orphan through many ways, it could also be through marriage, but God and not man must direct such. Some pastors have pushed many brothers in marrying in such a way, and after the marriage breaks and falls apart, God must be seeked first before entering into any thing marriage.

Some girls say, our family is poor, and I need husband quickly in other to be getting money to help them, you may not eat that money, your intention is wrong, that is not the right way to marry, you may go as far as giving yourself to that man in fornication and exposing your nakedness before that man, and at the end that marriage will not have any value except God intervenes through repentance.

I have seen a lot of people that married a woman to enjoy their money, but after the marriage the woman carried all her things to the parents, and other women could not allow their husband access to those things that attracted the man. Could you allow material things to attract you into marriage, you may fail and be destroyed completely because the foundation is wrong.

I MARRIED BECAUSE OF EDUCATION

1 Cor. 8:1, Acts 26:24.

Sure, knowledge is very important in every thing we do in this world. But if you marry some body just because he or she has the right qualification in education, you may regret to have done so in future. When the real life of the person you married appears, you will say Oh' how I wish I did not marry at all. It is not the multitude of degree that builds the home but God and good character, the love that is between two of you.

I WILL LEAD HIM/HER TO CHRIST AFTER MARRIAGE

Gen. 26:34-35, Gen. 27:46, 1 Cor. 6:14-16.

It is not a man that leads people to Christ, it is the Holy Spirit. We preach the word and God confirms it by using the Holy Spirit to transform the life of somebody. You cannot live in disobedience and do God a profitable service. Immediately you

are married to a non-Christian; an unbeliever or a sinner, your way is blocked and you have gone out of the will of God. You will pay for it; you cannot walk on the coals of fire without being burnt.

Eccl. 7:8

This saying is true that a journey of one thousand miles begins in a second. Marriage life is a journey of life, which involves the man, woman and God himself. It is a journey of no looking back. When a journey is planned and it is begun, the destination is the next thing in mind. What happens at the destination of every journey is what fills the mind of the person traveling.

*I will go before thee, and make the crooked places straight:
I will break in pieces the gates of brass, and cut in sunder
the bars of iron: And I will give thee the treasures of
darkness, and hidden riches of secret places, that thou
mayest know that I, the Lord, which call thee by thy name,
am the God of Israel.*

Isaiah 45: 2-3.

God has promised to travel with us in every journey and marriage I not different from other journeys of life. When people set out for a journey, there is distance to cover, and there may be problems on the way to encounter, and God has said, I will go ahead of you, in front of you, you will follow me behind, I will direct your steps and I will be in control. Then if God is there, there is nothing to fear. He has promised to removed every obstacle on the way. God changes every obstacles in marriage to miracles, he makes stumbling stones stepping stones. He opens the doors to the success of every good marriage. The treasures and riches of God prepared for every married homes is always available if God is given the proper place in marriage. When God says I will go before you, wait and go with him.

A: BE PREPARED BEFORE YOU MOVE

*And Jesus said unto him, No man having put his hand to
the plough, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God.*

Luke 9:62.

Get set very well before this holy matrimonial journey. Success comes at the end of every persevered journey. When you set out to search for something very

CHAPTER 5

THE MARRIAGE JOURNEY

*Better is the end of a thing than the beginning thereof:
and a patient in spirit is better than the proud in spirit.*

important, you can't get tired until you succeed and even if you are tired you rest and gather strength before continuing. Gold is not found on the surface of the earth. You dig deep before you can get it, and it takes times and energy to get it. Give the best of your time to the best thing you are looking for. A lot of people look back and think of leaving their partner because of little problem. One man said, the same sickness that kills people, we have gotten the same sickness, and I and my wife, in the morning we carry our things and go to work. What does that mean, the same problem that scatters marriages have come to them several times and they overcame and continued in their marriage. He that always think of breaking his home is not fit for marriage, and can never make a good home until he or she changes the way of reasoning.

A proverb says that "The sheep told the dog, that thing you see and begin to bark; I have seen it and kept quiet". Be prepared before you get into marriage. You must be ready to bear many things if you want to live long in your marriage. Any marriage that must last must be ready to close eyes to many things that the devil is using as weapons.

B. WAIT AND STRENGTHEN UP

C.

Hast thou not known? Haste thou not heard, that the everlasting God, the Lord, the Creator of the ends of the Earth, fainteth not, neither is weary? There is no searching of his understanding. giveth power to the faith; and to them that have no might he increaseth strength. Even the youths shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fall:

But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; and they shall walk and not faint.

Isaiah 40: 28-31

The renewal of your strength when tiredness comes upon your marriage journey or home depends on how you wait upon the Lord. To wait means to give God time to work in your personal lives. Reading and digesting good Christians marriage novels, and digging deep into the word of God will give you a renewed and

a good exemplary marriage. Do nothing in haste. When the journey becomes tough, and rough, even hot then sit down together and ask God for help. It is earlier said in the word of God that "my strength shall no man prevail". Even when one falls in any way in the marriage journey, the other will lift him up and fill his/her heart with encouragement. Nothing comes too easy, but God is our help. God has promised not to forsake us at any time, as long as we are attached to him, he will always want us to say the Lord is our helper.

The family that prays together stays together. Husbands and wives must form the habit of praying and studying together. Eating together and if you have a large bathroom, bath together. When husband and wife do things together, they transfer their spirit one to another. It becomes very hard to think evil of one another. Learn to discuss with your wife, or husband. Even if there is nothing too important to discuss, create an avenue of something to say, remember some past things that are good that you have done together, discuss of new plans and or the last sex you had together how good you felt during the intercourse.

C: SAIL THE BOAT WITH SAFETY

The people that travel by sea can best understand this word sail. Though it could also mean another thing but for this subject matter we want to go the way of the sea. To sail is to move forward across the sea or a lake by using canoes or engine power.

I have traveled several times by engine-boat and have seen how careful some operators are and how careless and rough others are. Every couple has to take decision on how to sail in their marriage boat either very carefully and save their lives and marriage or very roughly and careless and get drown. There are many outside forces that tend to control marriage home, but I advice every home not to give any place to the devil or any marriage destroyer and killers.

A couple that have taken decision to build a home is like an engine boat operator that have decided to go across the sea or go somewhere through the sea.

In-laws, relations and friends sometimes can be obstacles and problems to a marriage that wants to succeed. When ever any one give you suggestion that will not favour your home say no to that person. He or she sis either an agent of the devil to destroy or an illiterate concerning marriage. Before any one can speak of your home, read the spirit of the person and see whether you will continue the discussion or not.

Never allow any word that will not allow liberty to reign in your home. There are many homes that are living in modern slave trade. The decision is yours, either to stand or to fall, to go forward or to stop, but the best is to succeed because that is what God has called us to do.

D: PEACE BE STILL

**THE PRINCE OF DARKNESS CAN NEVER WITHSTAND
THE PRINCE OF PEACE**

And when he was entered into a ship, his disciples followed him. And, behold, there arose a great tempest in the sea, insomuch that the ship was covered with the waves: but he was asleep. And his disciples came to him, and awoke him, saying, Lord, save us: we perish. And he saith unto them, why are ye so fearful, O ye of little faith? Then he arose, and rebuked the winds and the sea: and there was great calm. But the man marveled, saying, what manner of man is this, that even the winds and sea obey him.

Matt. 8:23-27.

If Jesus is in your marriage boat it cannot sink. There may arise great tempest, problems, troubles, but peace will always be still because the prince of peace is in the inside of the boat. The winds, tempests, troubles or problems can never quench the joy of any marriage that have their anchor in the Lord Jesus Christ. The enemy may send his waves to cover your marriage, but remember, you have set out for a purpose and goal, do not stop until you achieve. His purpose is always to bring heartbreak to every home and stop their future. There is always a good future when two people agree to set out for marriage, but the devil will try to bring waves, but never give place to the devil, when he comes, remind him that the owner of your home, the Lord Jesus Christ is inside the home, tell him we have no need of you. Resist the devil, and he will flee from your home. Increase your faith and love towards one another, you will never parish. Learn to have confidence in your spouse. Never you suspect your spouse, and never listen to what people, or neighbours say.

The world is full of jealousy and envy and this is even entering into the Christian homes and the church of Jesus Christ today.

Guide your marriage from of what will soon happen. The Lord is in control; he will guide you to the end, follow him and listen to all the instructions through his word. Marriage is good in an atmosphere of calm. When the enemy arises, stand your ground in Spirit of the Lord and set a standard against him. Rebuke him and peace will take control. Do you want to enjoy a peaceful and calm marriage? Learn to put the devil in his right position. When you give him a finger, he will take the whole arm, and when he is given the whole arm, he then taken the whole body, please refuse to sell your home to him.

He that walketh with wise men shall be wise: but companion of fools shall be destroyed.

Prov. 13:20

Do you have a great desire for a lasting joyful and happy home? Then choose your friends. Do not surrender your marriage to an outsider. Settle your matter alone. Give peace a chance. Wise people will help your home to increase in goodness. Walk with the wise, shun bad company and maintain peace. You can begin your home very well and end up in a very bad way, and people will say it is not the will of God, but you are the center of the problem. Be careful now and be wise.

Blessed are the peace makers, for they shall be called the children of God.

Matt. 5:9

Do you want to be called a child of God in your home? Do you want your home or marriage to point the way to heaven, be a peace maker. Peace makers will always produce an exemplary marriage. Peace makers never listen to suggestions or the devil.

The fear of the Lord tendeth to life: and he that hath it shall abide satisfied; he shall not be visited with evil.

Prov. 19:23

Any home that must sail in safety to the end must have the fear of the Lord. When there is unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace, a home becomes a mini heaven.

E. MORE THAN SILVER AND GOLD

*A good name is rather to be chosen than great riches,
and loving favour rather than silver and gold.*

Prov. 22:1

*A good name is better than precious ointment;
Eccl. 7:1.*

Your marriage is more precious than silver and Gold or even millions of dollar. Love your marriage home and keep to God's command.

A stranger once went to a particular quarter to ask for one of his friends, somebody came out from one of the houses around and asked him, do you really mean you are looking for such a person, he responded with confidence and assurance, a big yes. Then the man said, you must be a bad fellow. The stranger was very surprised and asked what is wrong, you have not seen me before, how can you say that I am a bad person, the elderly man of the quarter opened his mouth and said because your friend has a bad reputation in this quarter, he has a bad name, he fights with the wife every time and nobody cares any longer.

We are tired of separating them. We are just waiting for the day one of them will kill the other. People of our quarter know that such a marriage is a disgrace and can contaminate other marriages that are not ready for a good example too. The younger ones are learning their bad behaviour. We are ashamed of such people that sell their secret life to public very cheap. It is better not to marry than to have such a marriage.

That his friend was so ashamed and regretted to have come to look for him though they have not seen for such a long time. Though they are very rich, but they have a bad reputation, a bad name and they are not Christ representatives or a model for a good home. They have made a dirty home that is nonsense. Such homes look like where Cat and Rat or Lion and Bear are living together.

A good family name is better than silver and gold. Your children are known by your name, you either make them to be proud of your name or ashamed of your name. DO not make mountains of our valley. Do not help the devil to increase his fire in your home, when he puts the fire, quench it. When there is fire in your marriage, you are the loser; you must learn to quench any fire before it goes beyond control. Some men want to know any little expenses that is done by their wives, and any little mistake, they will bark like dogs. They will kindle a fire that will burn for a week or month. Listen, stop that war type of marriage so far and make a good home, reconcile from today, make a covenant with God not to continue such a useless home that scares young people from getting married. A good name is better than silver and gold. Your home is your future and what you do there stands either to build a good or bad future. Who is that good and wise husband or wife, let him or her learn to maintain their home and present it as a glorious thing before the Lord.

F: RIGHTEOUSNESS WILL EXALT YOUR HOME

Righteousness exalts a nation: but sin is a reproach to any people.

Prov. 14:34.

He that followeth after righteousness and mercy findeth life, righteousness, and honour.

Pro. 21:21

Righteousness exalts a man but sin is a reproach to any man. Righteousness exalts a home but sin is a reproach to any home. Righteousness exalts a family but sin is a reproach to any family.

When righteousness reigns in your home or marriage, you will have God's exaltation and upliftment. Marriage is honourable when there is righteousness in it. God is proud of any marriage that practices righteousness. Marriage is either honourable or miserable. You are either in the spirit of unity or disunity. Humility will help you if you want to go too far in your home. Without righteousness your marriage is in shambles. When you follow after righteousness, your marriage will find life and honour and God will always visit your home. God is always looking for a home where he will show himself mighty on earth, no righteousness no God's glory.

GLORY, HONOUR, AND PEACE

Tribulation and anguish, upon every soul of man that doeth evil, of the Jew first and also of the Gentile: But glory, honour, and peace to every man that worketh good, to the Jew first and also to the Gentile: For there is not respect of persons with God.

Rom. 2:9-11

God is not partial, you have what you need. When you do evil in your home, then tribulation and anguish will be upon your marriage. God can never bear his rod in vain, he gives to every one according to his deeds. Value your marriage, it is more than silver and gold, the price is above rubies. Desire a home that is filled with God's glory, honour and peace. God is a peace giver. When you lack peace in your marriage and you consult him, he will never forsake you. Oh! That you will be wise today to value your marriage and keep it holy and happy. Do your family a favour, love yourselves. Do your children a favour, love yourselves.

CHAPTER 6

WHEN THERE WAS NO WATER

So Moses brought Israel from the red sea, and they went out into the wilderness of shur; and they went three days in the wilderness, and found no water.

Exodus 15:22

This great man of God, Moses, that has spoken with God face to face came to the end of life at a time and needed God's intervention. He was walking with God, but He allows them to walk for three days without water. Without battle there is not victory. You can only testify when you overcome a problem, if you have not testified

one day, just wait and see, God is not wicked but He trains His children in a hard way so you can be strong and face any opposition from the devil.

When we married newly, we were passing through some hard times and it was as if God was very far from us, as people who just came out from the Bible school newly, there was nothing to hope upon, yet my wife loved me so much and we were living in harmony. Sometimes there will not be food at home, and as a result of the mega amount we were being paid at the church we were serving, yet we relied on God.

Christian marriage is not without trial of faith, you may be like Abraham or Zechariah who were once childless or in any other way; one thing is that there are times that it seem as if God does not hear prayers again, it is not a time of complaining or making trouble with husband or wife, but rather a time to trust in the Lord and pray more, studying God's word to know what God says about the situation.

Of a truth mine is a virtuous woman, she has proved it in character and in family works, in times of lack and in times of abundance. When things became so tough, my wife began to carry fruits up and down in different markets in our locality then, I was ashamed because of her background, but she told me "God has sent me to help you in every area of your life," she never complained any day to the parents instead she always prove to them that we are more than conquerours. As pastors in the country and missionaries outside our own country, we have seen, hard and tough times but my wife has always encouraged me.

When your husband is suffering, never tread upon his head before you bring what you have to help your family. If you have a better means at the time he is passing through tough times, shoe him love and encourage him until the time of God's visitation. As some women will abuse their husband and call them all kinds of names and even try to abuse them before people, to show that they are the people providing for the home. If you do not want to make your family a humorous place at the time of problem or lack, the devil will use that opportunity to destroy your home, then prepare your properties and begin to match to hell-fire before it will meet you on the way because a home that quarrels in time of adversity surely gives the devil a chance to work harzadous things. God is not interested in fools. Husbands be kind also to your wives by that time of problem, encourage them because the rightful bread winner is you. She is a helper.

When the Israelites came out from the red sea, Miriam started singing their victories. Many of them thought that the battle is over. They never know there were many other things to fight ahead. The devil does not joke with Christian marriage, just as Israelites lacked water for three days, that is how he is not tired to fight in many areas of marriage. One thing is so sure about God, he will never leave us nor forsake us that we boldly say that the Lord is our helper. A time of lack is a time of trusting the Lord with all our heart, not a time of learning in our own understanding. The devil can make people disbelieve God's power of providence. If you are newly married or have been married for a long time, and you face difficulties, El-shaddai is alive forever more. He is all sufficient God.

When there is no food, trust in the Lord.

When you lack things to wear trust in the Lord.

And lean not in your own understanding.

When it seems all the ways are blocked in your home.

Acknowledge him in all your ways, and he will direct your paths.

A: BITTER, BUT MADE SWEET

Exodus 15:23-25

When you face one problem after another, how do you react, indifferent not so? That is not the best way. Israelites met bitter water in a bitter land after suffering from lack of water for three days. The people started murmuring against Moses in ignorance, not knowing they were murmuring against God, since Moses is a servant of God, he is working for the Lord. Moses was not the one who brought them out, it was the Lord. Moses was standing on God's behalf, he was a mediator. The devil's way of solving problem is bringing hatred in the home, stop the communication and bring in bitterness. Never give place to the devil, take him to his proper place. Nothing is too hard for God to change. No matter how bitter the marriage has

become, God is an expert in making good change in the home. Give peace like Moses.

BE ANXIOUS FOR NOTHING

Ex. 15:25-26

Phil. 4:6

Success is achieved in marriage when our eyes are removed from fault finding and they are fixed on the Lord. When you become anxious or so troubled for a particular thing, you will be over whelmed by that problem, every home must learn how to be free from burden that depress them until they know not how to communicate with God. Who do you cry to when your home is shambles, or in confusion? The people troubled Moses, but Moses turned to the source of every thing, and God gave him solution to their need. God has a solution tree beside every marriage, and this tree is for changing every bitterness in the home to sweetness. Jesus may not have been given the proper place in your home, do that today and find the joy and solution to the problems in your home. He may also be in your home without giving him the proper place, there may be a man and there may be also a mother in the home without doing the duties of a mother because the proper position is not allowed as a result of trouble in the home, the same way, Jesus may not be given the proper place, do that now and have peace.

The Lord told the Israelites, if you obey me tin totality, you will never face all the problem over nations of the world face. The same way; if the Lord is fully respected and honoured in the home, he will always surprise that with peace, joy and happiness. Be anxious for nothing; let your request be made known to God and his peace will rule your home in Jesus Name.

LOVE MUST BE PROVED

If love passes through fire, then you will know the real love and the false one. Every real love must be tested and proved. Love can only be proved in the home in times of trouble; lack or any other problem. When the marriage is bitter, beckon on Jesus to sweeten it back again.

When a wife obeys as unto the Lord and the husband loves the wife as his own body, then success is too sure in the home.

B: OBEDIENCE BRINGS SUCCESS

Ex. 15:26, Ps. 1: 1-3

A diligent and careful following of the Lord is always a pre-requisite for God's divine blessing. When the mind and heart is turned towards the God of heaven he had no option than blessing us. Jesus said, my sheep hears my voice and they follow me. We are the sheep of God's pasture. Every home must learn to hearken diligently to the voice of God through his word and his servants or even good Christian marriage counselors. This is the reason every husband and wife must make sure they are in God's divine will and direction. One thing is for family to know the will of God, but another thing for them to do the will of God. What you know will never know you until you will begin to practice that. The more you bring your family close to God, God will say I know this home, and he will always bring the members of the family by their names.

CHAPTER 7

WHEN I WAS A CHILD

When I was a child, I speak as a child, I understand as a child, I thought as a child: but when I became a man, I put away childish things.

1 Cor. 13:11

Children have their way of speech, reasoning and behaviour. Apostle Paul experienced this as he started his ministry. Maturity demands a gradual process; every thing that has beginning has need of growth. For growth to come, there must be training or feeding. Immaturity is a sign of baby hood, but when maturity begins to come every childish idea, behaviours, speech and characteristics begin to disappear.

Marriage is not different from any other thing that has its baby foundation. When two people take an oath for marriage, they begin their practical family life in a baby stage. Most of the practical family life may be new that even many things that are very necessary in the home may not be known, and this may be bringing clash of power and fights. When the knowledge of family life begins and it is properly applied, every ignorance will disappear. To begin a new family with fighting is to lay a bad foundation. Even when you have not known manner of approach in the home, at least learn to handle yourselves one to another, and let there be understanding, it may not be too easy at the beginning, but instead of turning the home to a boxing ground, it is better to accept defeat. Do not expect every thing to be all right at the first time. Many homes have started with less or much misunderstanding, but growth and knowledge destroys the strategies of Satan through ignorance.

Many marriage homes refuse to mature, they remain in that baby stage till uncountable problems overtake them.

A: GO IN FOR TRAINING

Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.

Prov. 22:6.

As children and young Christians must be trained to grow in knowledge spiritually, so is every newly married home needs a good training. I use to interpret this verse of the scripture in this way when it comes to marriage, "TRAIN UP YOUR WIFE IN THE WAY SHE WILL GO, WHEN SHE MATURES SHE WILL NOT DEPART FROM IT". This is for both men and women. Women need to train their husbands in some certain ways also. If a husband or a wife is well informed of how the home must be carried out, it will help them to have harmony and a happy home. Every body needs training both the wife and the husband. This command to train means building up one another in the fear of the Lord. No man is an island of wisdom, we need one another. We need to help out a brother or a sister, if we need the best out of their home. The newly couple that fights today can stop it tomorrow if they understand what marriage is all about.

WITHOUT PATIENCE FAILURE IS SURE

He that handleth a matter wisely shall find good: and whoso trusteth in the Lord, happy is he. The wise in heart shall be called prudent: and the sweetness of the lips increaseth learning.

Prov. 16:20-21

Training needs patience, and every matter in the home must be handled wisely. Trust the Lord for success in your home. You don't expect your student to know every thing you are teaching him or her in one day, or else the person will already be a professor. Training has to do with days, weeks, months and sometimes years to have an advanced training. Marriage is an institution with its personal curriculum and each of the subjects matter must be well taught with patience. If you are newly married, listen to good marriage counselors and well experienced good Christian homes, it will enlighten you and help you. Don't allow failures in other people's homes to dictate the way your home will operate, they may fail but you are not called in the kind of failure.

Patience is the fruit of the Spirit, and every marriage partner needs it. Listen to this funny statement, somebody once said IF YOUR PATIENCE HAS FINISHED, SWITCH OVER TO LONG-SUFFERING, BUT THEN YOU CAN NO MORE BEAR IT, BEGIN TO LOVE AFRESH.

B: DO NOT MESS UP YOUR LIVES

Where no counsel is, the people fall: but in the multitude of counselors there is safety.

Prov. 11:14

Without counsel purposes are disappointed: but in the multitude of counselors they are established.

Prov. 15:22.

Any person that refuses to listen to his or her marriage partner is bound to fail and fall without understanding it quick. Counseling and instruction from either of the partners brings safety. If any marriage must stand, husband and wife must listen to one another, but the manner of the approach is what matters. You may say the right thing in a wrong way, and it will bring problem. Don't be a lion, but be a sheep.

Lions devour and drink blood, but sheep keep quiet and listen carefully. Against the devil you can be a lion but not in the family. Wisdom is a builder of families but understanding makes them strong and knowledge fill the house with precious and pleasant riches. Listen and wait until the suggestion is finished, it may sound very foolish at the beginning, but at the end of it wisdom may produce a wonderful idea that can build your home. Counseling keeps a man to live long on earth, so you need it in your home.

C: WHAT YOU NEED TO PROSPER YOUR HOME

This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.

Joshua 1:8.

No Christian family can prosper without the word of God. The Word of God is the Sword of the Spirit. When you apply the word of God normally in their proper position every ignorance will be cut asunder and the problems will just disappear.

Give time to study the word of God and God will give you every revelation you need to succeed in your home. Good success is a sure product of any home that has followed the word of God very carefully and systematically. The devil can defeat any other thing but not the word of God. What is written is written, it is established in heaven. Your marriage can never fail in the name of Jesus Christ.

