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## Divorce Warriors

When I sat down and started writing this I was not prepared for what was going to happen. I had no idea what it was going to do to me and the many lives surrounding this manuscript. I was not prepared for how the Lord was going to use this manuscript to bring so many lives together; in a unity, that only someone that has experienced the loneliness of aloneness, could understand. We often refer to ourselves as Cavemen & Cavewomen; why do refer to ourselves in such a way? Because like King David, we know the power isolation can have on a persons mind, soul and spirit. We know the pain of betrayal and anger; and we know what it takes to forgive. We know what it is like to live in deepest, darkest, smelliest hole on this earth.

In the first few writing of this manuscript I tried so very hard to write like the great American novelist and try to impress people with big words and deep thoughts. But one night The Holy Spirit came to me and instructed me to write this on a level that a fourteen year old could easily understand it. To write a manual on all I had learned through my experience and research. To share everything the Lord has talked to me about, concerning separation, divorce, marriage and relationships. To be direct and to the point, not being to objective. The greatest criticism I get... regarding this manuscript is that I am not objective enough.

The biggest question I get is," Mr. Ewert, what is your story." My story didn't begin the day she left.. it began years before. Not just for me, but her as well.

As a Christian man with a Christian wife, that had left me, I was marked as something dirty and it was figured, by some people, that I had become some kind horrible creature because my Christian wife had left. Not all people think like that, I was lucky, God had a plan and I was right were I was for a reason, and I was suffering what I was for a reason.

When I looked for help I was sent to the world, of humanistic/materialist worldly counselors. I managed to glean a little helpful knowledge from the counselors but they were asking me to do things that were not consistent with the word of God.

I was alone and treated like something sub-human. I asked God Why ? Why was I walking such a lonely terrifying path ? " *Because I Love You*", He said. He promised me that through this situation the hearts of many would be revealed, and I was to help and teach them. I was to love and help the ones who had left me for dead, and God would vindicate me and raise me up to a position where I could help others.

The worldly counselors told me that my wife was some sort of horrible creature and I was a victim of her past. That she and her family were my enemies and I needed to get angry and fight. That I had to stay away from my wife and get my children out of their present living situation.

This idea turned my stomach and my spirit became very angry, and I let them know what Gods Word had to say about their ideals. They in turn, thought I was some kind of religious nut . In all my life, I have never experienced such a satanic cesspool .When I would tell people to stop speaking bad about my wife, they told me I was in denial and needed help. I was told by other Christians to forget her, and that she was bad. I want to set the record straight, *"She is not bad, she is a child of God, just like I am. She was burned out and hurting, She was lonely and desperate, She is not a bad person, She was as much a victim as I was.* Because of my disability and what she had to endure over those four years, she was worn out; and needed rest. My physical condition put a tremendous load upon her and she felt that she had to go, in order to save her sanity. Later I understood this, but the humanistic and religious people could not.

***Between the Garden and the Cross***

In a relationship, I have learned that you have to be very careful who you intend on becoming partners with, because you can not go into the relationship expecting this person to "love" you forever. If you enter into a relationship saying to yourself, " can I love this person forever ". You need to decide if you "will" love this person forever, weather they choose to love you or not. The word love in this day & age is an expression and not a commitment. When someone, these days, says "I love you" they are in reality saying, " You effectively stimulate happiness & security within me". But a person can only supply temporal stimulation , at best, for another person.

The marriage, these days, is a relationship based upon expectations. When these expectations or stimulation's are not readily met or supplied they become demands. Love is never something expected or demanded. What you get when you expect love or demand it, is a perverted form of submission. Your partner is not free to extend true love anymore, because they are all bond up in the demanding expectations and conditions you have placed on them. If you get two people doing this, in the relationship; the relationship is almost doomed for sure. There is only one word that describes Expectation, Conditions and Demands, that is Selfishness ! The same sort of expecting demands and conditions will destroy our relationship with God.

Real Love says " I *will* to love you, I am committed to stand by you without expectations or conditions". This is how our heavenly Father loves us; When God says "I Love You" God is saying, " *I will to Love You, I want to make a covenant to Love You.*" God is saying, "I love you so much I will set my only son upon this earth for you to crucify."

In the same way, our marriage vows are a covenant to Love one another; just as God loves us, and has made a covenant with us, to love us. A marriage covenant has nothing to do with what you think you should be getting out of the relationship. It is not what you might expect the other person to do or change in themselves. The marriage is a covenant you make with your partner and God. It is a holy promise to love the other person weather they "do " anything or not, and then leave the rest to God. Love is a do word, love is action. What are you doing that anyone watching would call love ? Are you spending an hour a day, week, month or maybe even a year in serious prayer for your partner and family ?

Jesus spent his entire life in preparation for that walk from the Garden to the Cross. Jesus knew what his responsibilities were. He never thought, " I am expected to die on that cross to save this bunch of sinners." He knew why he was here and in his humanity did not want to suffer the humiliation and pain he was facing between the Garden and the Cross. Here is where we see the perfect example of self-denial, self-discipline and unconditional obedience to God. He didn't go into the Garden once or twice, he went into the garden three times and said, " if there is any other way, please father let this cup pass from me, but I want your will to be done." Jesus said his sorrow was so deep he felt like he was going to die. (MT. 26:38) There are a few of us that have sat in that garden overcome with the grief and sorrows this life has offered us. Yet Jesus, through his love, and committed will to do his fathers will, he allowed himself to be tortured and hung on that cross. He suffered the shame and humiliation of that walk to the cross, so we could once again have that intimacy we once had in the garden of Eden.

## *The Garden*

I look at my separation day as entering the garden. Here I prayed, " Dear Lord let this cup pass from me and I'll do anything". I just kept going in and pleading with God to deliver me from this torment and the humiliation and pain of divorce. Then one evening while I sat in my little garden, or should I say pity party, The voice of the Lord came to me, and it was not a sweet gentle voice. "*GREG ! , I have heard just about enough of this selfish praying*" he said. " *You have done nothing but pray for your deliverance and have not once asked me to bless this woman you keep saying you love, and your motives for wanting your marriage restored are all pure selfish in nature. Not once have you asked me to use you in this situation, to bring glory to*

*me or my church. I take great pleasure in bringing glory to me and my church. But I will not glorify you in this situation."* I nearly fell off my bed !

I sat there for nearly an hour. I didn't know what to say, and I was completely humiliated and ashamed of myself. The guilt was like nothing I have ever experienced in my life. It was three days before I could even pray again. but during those three days I did a lot of reflecting. It was then that I realized that I was full of pride and expectations. Instead of giving respect, I demanded it. Instead of giving hope I expected it. Instead of giving Grace & Mercy I was demanding it. Instead of attending to my responsibilities, I demanded attention. In all my demanding and expecting I had forgotten about loving, and I knew better. How could I expect Grace when I had none? How could I expect Mercy when I had very little to offer? How could I expect forgiveness when I couldn't forgive?

Just as Peter denied Jesus three times, here were my three denials. I said I loved my family, just like Peter told Jesus how much he loved him. Like Peter, I was so concerned about my own pain, suffering and loneliness that I had forgotten about my families pain & suffering. How much more selfish could a human being be ?

That was a week of great revelation for me, and because of it, July will always be a special time, the month God yelled at me. Though my family is not here, I have chosen to love them. I Will to love them, no matter what the years may bring or what roads we are lead down, I will to love them. I will to love them the best I can from right where I am. Love isn't what You can buy them or how much money you give them. Love isn't found in anything this world has to offer. If money is love to you then where will love be when the accounts are emptied ? Love in this situation, is placing your heart on the altar for them.

Believe me, it would be much easier to be bitter and unforgiving. I choose to love and forgive, but I am persecuted because of it; because it is much easier for others to support you when you are being bitter, unforgiving and hateful. Instead I am accused of walking in denial of myself; I hope I am.

## *THE CROSS*

My cross came the day we were going to court for the final drop of that gavel. I was prepared to do battle, I was prepared to humiliate her. I wanted to put a black mark on her reputation. This is the kind of thing people and lawyers will advise you to do. I think the rule they go by is something like, 'If their black mark is bigger than yours, than you win and you are justified.'

As I sat there waiting to go into the court room, going over my paperwork, the Lord spoke again. It went something like this:

*GREG !, do you really love her ?*

Yes, I said.

*GREG !* he said again, this time stronger and louder. This time getting my full attention.

*Do you love her ?*

Yes, I said.

*Greg, do you trust me ?* This is when I knew he was going to say something I wasn't going to like.

Of course I do, I responded with a question in my voice. You know I do ?

*Do I Greg ? Will you completely trust me in there today ?*

What are you getting at Lord, I asked ?

In the meantime court had already started and the state had already crucified three marriages. I was reaching for the door when the Lord spoke again, saying.

*Greg, I do not want you to say or do anything in there today, keep your mouth shut and answer "no".* I stood there and stared at the door. I couldn't believe what I was hearing. I had walked into that battle field armed to the teeth and the Lord was saying drop your weapons. I walked in and sat down and looked at my wife and her mother. Suddenly I realized that I had

gone there prepared to hurt the two woman I cared the most about in this world. When our names were called I stood up and the Lord said "*drop it*", meaning the files I had in my hand.

Suddenly, in a flash moment, she was the bride of my youth again. My mind instantly flashed back to the day & moment I had fallen in love with her. Then under my breath I whispered, "I choose to forgive, no sin has been done against me." I sat the files down on the seat and walked forward. Oh dear Jesus, I thought, is this what you felt that day.

The court did the usual stuff and when they asked her that big question, "Do you consider this marriage irretrievably broken with no hope of reconciliation," her eyes became glassy and she hesitated. Then answered "yes" and lowered her eyes. The judge turned his head to me and smiled, the stage was set, here was my chance. "Is there something you would like to say?" The Judge asked me. With everything in me I wanted to throw myself at her feet, but with every ounce of love, faith and trust in my Lord I hesitated and said "no." I could feel those nails, Jesus had taken in his hands, being driven into my heart. I turned and walked out without looking back, I wish I had. I had stopped and picked up my files and before I could get out of the building the Holy Spirit had me tear up the files and throw them away.

Do I regret obeying the Holy Spirit? No! No I do not. He knew something I didn't. And He also knew that because I loved her I would let her go, unconditionally. We all make choices, either to obey and leave it in Gods hands, or do it our way and mess things up.

Your Cross does not have to be found in a courtroom. Maybe your Cross is found in the little phrases, I will to love my partner, and forgive them, for the rest of my life, and I will to love you Jesus, Please Forgive Me.

Jesus is the only one that can carry you through the Trials & Terror of Separation and Divorce. Jesus is the only one that can bring a complete healing to your shatter heart and broken dreams. Jesus is the only one that can repair a broken marriage, and Jesus is the only one that can completely repair a broken heart. Do you find yourself between the Garden & the Cross today?

If there was something that I could have done to inhibit reconciliation, I think I did it. I did everything wrong. I listened to others and didn't listen to God. I didn't obey the Holy Spirit until it was too late. Now I am helping others, and doing everything possible to help them to not do the things I did. Your mouth will get you into more trouble than anything else. My mouth did and I am paying a very high price for it.

Through this trial by fire I have learned that Jesus will never leave you or forsake you. Even after you have screwed everything up. He takes great joy in embracing us after our screw-ups and restoring us. This by no means gives us a get out of jail free card. You will reap what you sow. When it seems everyone else has forsaken you, he is always there and will send the right people to pull you out of the hole you dug for yourself. He will not condemn you or rub your nose in it. He is only concerned about your relationship with Him. He will, at all costs, fight to restore that relationship or begin a new relationship with you. His love is not conditional, expecting or demanding; his love is pure. He is there, in our mistakes, to draw us back even after we have messed everything up.

Reach out to Jesus, Today, and find that love you never thought you would ever experience. It is better than anything you will see on TV or in books. It is the best!

All of this made me realize a lot of things. If people were trying to teach me these humanistic, materialist and religious values, what were they teaching my wife and children, and all the others going through similar situations. Were they being taught love & forgiveness? Were they being taught about godly responsibilities or humanistic rights? If Satan was trying to trap me into this way of thinking, he was working on my family and many others, in the same way. Satan uses the terror of anger to manipulate a person into a vulnerable state of mind, and that is when he has control.

The horrible emotions you endure the first thirty days of separation will cause you to say and do things you would never have done before, and I did some of them. There needs to be help for those who are hurting and desperate, and there needs to be check and balances established. Praise God, I already did those stupid things, so now I can help others avoid doing the same. Everyone has that one really stupid thing they have done in their lives. Now I have mine. I'm told it cost me my chance of reconciliation.

There can be more damage done to the relationship in those first 90 days of separation than the entire marriage. And it will not make any difference how sorry or repentant you are. Everything will be blown way out of proportion on both sides. The marriage message must be more than "Try Harder" and the Law. Men and women need to be taught Love and its true meaning, they need to be taught in the right way. It would seem that this generation was not taught love in their youth and most are not learning it until after the divorce. Love has become an expression and is no longer a commitment.

Your mind is wide open to suggestion those first 30 days. If Satan has placed someone, that you trust, close to you and they start filling you with humanistic and religious ideals, just about anything can happen. During this time you are running on 85% emotion and all your energy is being absorbed by your emotions. This is making the simplest decision, on your own, nearly impossible. Unfortunately this leaves you wide open to the stability of the person advising you. This can be very dangerous if this person resents being married, has secret negative feelings about marriage or the opposite sex. It is even worse if the person harbors any ill feelings towards your partner.

When you are running on this much emotion your emotions are sent back to the beginning, to your adolescent feelings and emotional desires. As a result of this morals tend to slip. If you are not grounded in good spiritual support system that will hold you accountable, you will find yourself doing things you never would have done just a few weeks or months before. So many people have fallen victim to this situation and because of pride, shame and guilt they end up never recovering emotionally. This person remains stuck in that adolescent emotional state of mind for years. Some people just snap out of it one day, but most experience another divorce, or something else that is very traumatic, before they finally snap out of the adolescent mind set. This is why I started **DIVORCE WARRIORS** and wrote these articles.

After realizing these things (*after 8 months*) I cried out to God, "But father, you hate divorce, how could you let this happen." His response through me for a loop;(Lam. 3:1-36)

"Because I love both of you," he said. "Your hidden guilt, bitterness, unforgiveness, and rebellion were going to ultimately destroy you.

There was an open door, a door for Satan, into many lives and households, that I could not close until I had removed you. Through your pride and religious self-righteousness. There was only one way to save it all, and that was to allow you to suffer the greatest shame and humiliation of divorce.

Greg, you suffered horrible physical and emotional pain before your family ever left. Yet you still held on to the pride, rebellion and self-righteousness. Your self-seeking pride even amazed me. I considered letting you go, but I had made a promise to Abraham, my friend and your grandfather, that I would not allow Satan or this world to overcome you. (my natural grandfathers name is Abraham Ewert) Your grandfather had a deep love for you and spent countless hours in prayer for you. We talked about you often and when I would become angry with you, he knew it and would intercede on your behalf. I had made a covenant with Abraham concerning you, when you were 18 years old. I was not going to break that covenant.

Greg, I hate divorce, I have always hated it. It is because of my love for my children, and the blood that was shed for them, that I have allowed my children to do such things, from time to time; it is for their sakes that I allow this. It is because of my love and a higher covenant than marriage itself, that I will endure the humiliation and shame of one of my children doing this utterly detestable thing. Division and separation are not of my design. But my people and my church have taken on the things of this world and hearts have become hardened, and without the blood and my Grace, I would have to destroy them and cast them into the place of weeping and eternal darkness.

I made a covenant with myself, long before man was created. It is that covenant I must first consider, in these matters. I will reveal much to you as you are able, but for now, wait and consider my words.

Greg, please understand that I had to allow this to happen. For the sake of many, I had to allow this. I hate divorce, it is Satans way, not mine. He has destroyed and stolen much through divorce, But because I love you, Stephanie and those children, I had to let Satan destroy your home; but because you did choose me, I am at this very moment, building you a

new one. It is stronger and more beautiful than you can imagine. Be still, wait, and see what wonders I have already done for you. What Satan intended to use to destroy you I have used to make you stronger.

For now my son, wait. I will reveal much to you and you will not be ashamed. Yes, I judged you, but only because you were worthy to be judged. I disciplined you and used the rod of correction on your back, but only because you are my child and I love you. You will not remember the pain, but you will remember the rod.(Lam. 3:1)

Greg, you will have joy, you will have heartache, you will have... even in the little time left.....(*The rest is personal*)

Through the Holy Spirit and through Gods love and mercy, a ton of bitterness, guilt and unforgiveness, that had laid deep within me, was brought to the surface. These were things that had nothing to do with my marriage. Except for one thing, they were all completely un-associated events and circumstances. But they all effectively effected my relationship with God, my friends and family.

Have you ever looked back and thought, " I must have been crazy, how could I have done such things."

Then I entered the period where I had to forgive myself and accept Gods Forgiveness. I am telling you, I experienced multiple levels of humiliation and shame those first eight months. (Lam. 3:37-39)(Rom.8)

## Making the Big Decision

When making a decision of this magnitude it must be done with a clear mind and never made with the emotions. At this point in time there are a lot of people trying to make decisions for you. They feel they know better than you do. But only you can make the decision and you will pay for any decisions made by your Friends, Family or your Lawyer.

Below you will find two topics we deal with on a regular basis. These are not applicable to every situation but we want you to think about them and consider the views expressed here.

### **ABUSE**

The most common reason I hear for divorce is emotional abuse. Abuse is a word used too frequently these days. When questioned the accusers (abused) frequently admit that their emotional abuse is nothing more than a subject, topic, phrase or expression that hurts their feels. This is not always true and there are many cases of actual, intentional emotional abuse. Intentional abuse is done by someone intentionally using someone's emotions to control them.

In Describing Abuse both the accused and accusers have offered these insights.

#### **Misrepresented Abuse is:**

1. A subject, topic, phrase or expression that they are unwilling to face, focus on or deal with. (usually something from the past)
2. A subject, topic, phrase or expression that they ponder on and allow to eat them alive. Then have to Blame someone for the hurt. And then justify there unforgiveness.
3. A subject, topic, phrase or expression that hurt their feelings. But instead of just saying they had their feels hurt, the accuser uses the word abuse.

Upon close examination of the accused, most, say they never realized they were hurting the accuser. Or realized it, but found it nearly impossible to avoid the subjects, topics, phrases or expressions that caused the hurt.

The accusers relate to an inexplicable anger, resulting in unforgiveness, bitterness, selfishness and pride. Selfish in the respect that accusers became selfish with their anger through pride. They justified their anger and held on to it, because it has become a part of their character. Anger has become their first response to a subject, topic, phrase or expression that they are unwilling to face, focus on or deal with, or hurts their feelings. Anger will do anything to survive. It will attach itself to the past and if that avenue is cut off, then it attaches itself to circumstances, and then it needs blame.

It is my conclusion that anger and selfish pride are the culprits here, but convincing a person who has years worth of hurt all stored up within them is a hard thing to do. Anger is like a monster within them and not even the accusers can explain it, most of the time. But they will justify it with blame. The natural defense is to blame someone for the anger resulting from a subject, topic, phrase or expression. The anger needs blame. Yet at the same time the accuser does not realize what has happened and the anger is going to fight to survive. The anger will not accuse itself, because by doing so it causes self-destruction. So when someone else accuses it, it attacks in self-defense. Just about any change or need for change will trigger this inexplicable anger. To live in anger is to have a murderous heart. (Matt 5:21) So it was concluded in my experience, with both accusers and accused, that the accused was the abuser. In that they were abusing themselves. This didn't let the accused off the hook, in fact it produced a higher responsibility for the accused, in that they were now required to Love, Forgive and Help the accuser. In most cases family counseling worked very well. This is an important issue and I want you to consider these questions when making your decision.

1. Are you or have you really been abused ?
2. Why do you consider yourself an abuse victim ?
3. Is someone telling you, you are a victim ?
4. Is it truly abuse or an excuse ?
5. Are you living with a victims mentality ?

#### Are You Abused or Deceived

Satan has a difficult time deceiving the intellect, but has mastered the art of deceiving the emotions or feelings. Through it he has introduced the word Abuse into the church through humanism. Now instead of hearing cries of persecution, we hear the cries of abuse. The difference between them, is as wide as the oceans.

Persecution is to be afflicted, tormented or tortured for one's beliefs. To be persecuted is to be pursued by a persecutor. (Matthew 10:34-39) is a great example how persecution will arise from within our own homes.

A person who believes they are persecuted, or suffering for Jesus's name sake, (Matt. 10:39) has a completely different attitude than the person who believes they are abused. Read 1st and 2nd Peter, and 1Corinthians. Look up the words suffer, suffering and long-suffering. When a person endures persecution, with the attitude of doing so for the sake of another or purely for the sake of the gospel, there is great power and pleasure in it, and considered very commendable by our father. (1PT 2:20) Persecution's attitude is totally different, it is spiritual and can be traced back to the enemy. When called "Abuse" it creates a different attitude in the believer.

When persecuted, a person endures for the sake of another. Their driving force and endurance is Love. The fruits of such actions are Love, Peace, Joy, Long-suffering. But when a person believes they are abused, they become fearful and selfish. Humanism dictates to a person that they must serve self, but a believer serves others. We are to be slaves to one another and see, a person trapped or held in bondage to fleshly desires, as a person in need, or even as a victim.

It sickens me to hear a pastor, counselor or lay-minister say, " you have got to start thinking of yourself."

Let me give you an example:

Terry came to the men's retreat and was saved. He took his new found love home with him. This was immediately rejected by his family. He started to be persecuted for his new belief. This wasn't easy so he brought it up at the next men's breakfast. It horrified me when I heard of the response given by the leaders. It went something like this: " Terry, you do not have to take this abuse, God doesn't expect you to take this kind of abuse, you need to start thinking of yourself."

Now, instead of enduring, with Love, Wisdom and Long-suffering; That abuse word had been injected. Now Terry sees his family as the enemy. Now he perceives every stronghold as a personal attack on him. Now he walks in fear and soon establishes justification for anger, bitterness and unforgiveness. Now he is in a defensive mode and the combination of human nature and Satan gets the better of him. Now his own actions begin to drive a wedge between him and his family.

It use to be, " that poor woman is enduring great persecution from her husband, by the enemy, for standing her ground and maintaining her walk with the Lord." The fight was in the name of the Lord. Her suffering was done in love. Many men were broken by this, and come to know Jesus. Her friends at church stood by her and spent hours interceding on her behalf.

Now, for the most part, it goes like this, " You poor woman you are being abused by that man, he is a horrible beast. God does not expect you to be abused." What Satan has done is move the fight from the spiritual to the flesh. Now instead of dealing with the love and power of a believing wife and the Tuesday woman's bible study, he injects the abuse word into her(humanism) and now she fears and walks in unforgiveness. This effectively cuts off the anointing, the power needed to break down Satan's stronghold. Suddenly the person or situation becomes the enemy. But the Word of God says our enemy is not flesh or blood.(EPH 6:12) It is those powers of darkness the rule the air above us.

Once the person believes they are being abused they start looking at flesh and forget the spirit. They completely forget their vows and begin looking at this person they vowed to love until death do us part, as the enemy. Even their prayers change, and there motives behind their prayers change. After being convinced that they are abused, their prayers are no longer centered on the problem, they become selfish. There are even those who didn't think they were being abused until some one convinced them that they were being abused.

Let me give you another example:

Mary was under a lot of stress concerning finances and her husbands way of expressing (verbally) his concerns, regarding finances. Sister Smith, who believes she is (verbally) abused starts telling Mary that this is abuse. Now when her husband expresses his concerns, Mary no longer prays about the finances or for her husband. Now her prayer requests are for her deliverance from this abusive man. Now that she sees him as abusive, any subject, topic, phrase or expression that hurts her feelings, is considered abuse, instead of just saying he had hurt her feels. Now any discussion regarding a subject, topic, phrase or expression that hurts her feelings, is not done in love but in anger and with a defensive attitude.

It is Humanism and not The Bible that says we should not suffer.

Look at Matthew (10:34-39)

Look at What Jesus Himself Said:

"Do not think that I came to bring peace on earth. I did not come to bring peace but a sword.

"For I have come to 'set a man against his father, a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law'; "and 'a man's enemies will be those of his own household.' "He who loves father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me. And he who loves son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me. "And he who does not take his cross and



follow after Me is not worthy of Me. "He who finds his life will lose it, and he who loses his life for My sake will find it.

I have had a lot people tell me, and at one point convince me, that I was an abused child. Believe me, I know what it is like to be deceived into living abuse. People would tell me how terrible I should be feeling, until I was feeling that way.

One night I crawled into my abuse and hatred for my mother. It was a real good depressive state that I had always felt justified in. My goodness, it was a great excuse and wonderful justification for failure. I had become comfortable in my depressive, victimized state of abuse.

Then the Holy Spirit replayed those years to me. Yes, mom clobbered me and there was a lot of what would be considered verbal abuse, these days. But then the Holy Spirit let me see Greg the teenager and the attitudes I had back then. I was a lot bigger than my mom and just as stubborn. But I am telling you, at 5ft tall, my mother could back down an attacking grizzly bear.

Looking at the situation now, I started to understand. My mother was raising six children, on her own, in a low income atmosphere. By the age of thirteen, her oldest (me) was developing a criminals mind. He was tough and knew it, he fought all the time. He was becoming more and more numb to society and authority. He would definitely be serving life in prison right now if he hadn't had that well seeded fear of mom within him. He didn't fear man, God, death, guns or the police. But he feared Mom and he is now here to write about it.

Sure she wailed om me real good at times, but if you had know me as a teenager, you would have helped her. Thank God my Mother wailed the devil out me. I realized that I wouldn't have had the fear and bitterness without thinking I had been abused. I never felt abused until I was told I had been, as a young adult, about 20 years old. I never thought of it as abuse, growing up. But after the word abuse was attached to my childhood, POW, I was bitter and angry.

Sure, I have some emotional scares because of some of the things that happened, but at least I am here. Those scares serve as reminders, of a mother who did her best, and what I might have become. I spent most of my life running away from what and who I am. God created me and knew me before I was born, he knew that Greg needed the toughest mom alive in 1956. God knew who Greg was, and what he wound be, so he set mom in charge of shaping him and keeping him in church.

If one tenth of the church went after the devil like my mother does, we would run him right off this planet. I am telling you, the devil is afraid of my mom, she commands authority. But if my mother cares about you, look out, you will get saved.

I could wollow in my own "abusive" background if I wanted to. I have only mentioned it to you, the reader, so you will know that I know what it is to live with those terrorizing feeling of being abused. Sure, you may have been abused, but you don't have to live it. Unless it has become your excuse, an justification table. It is OK to except what happened and say " Oh Well," or even " So What." You are a blood bought, child of the one living God. You are washed and cleansed in the blood Jesus shed for "YOU." There is no CONDEMNATION in Christ Jesus. Never feel guilty about what some one or some situation has done to you. If you will let go of it, it will stop hurting you.

**Note:**

There at millions that have used abuse as an excuse for anger and divorce, but after a few years of saying they were abused, they started believing it themselves. Then they live a life where abuse ends up being the excuse for everything. It even grows and the imagined abuse gets worse as time goes on. When there really wasn't any abuse at all.

Again I want to express that there are true cases of emotional and physical abuse but I want to make sure you consider these questions before seeing a lawyer.

## **ADULTERY**

The Second most common issue addressed in this ministry is adultery. Adultery is a violation so terrible that God made it a permissive reason to divorce. Adultery use to be a male thing. But here in the 90's it has turned and become a pretty equal violation of the marriage vows, with both husbands and wives doing it. Yet, I have found that in a true relationship before God it is forgivable and the relationship completely repairable.

I classify this act in three categories. 1. The Physical Affair

2. The Mental Affair  
3. The OOPS

### **THE PHYSICAL AFFAIR**

The physical affairs are repeated acts with one or more partners other than your mate. This is the most devastating and the highest form of betrayal. If you have committed an act of physical adultery you get what you get, take responsibility for your actions. Adultery is not unforgivable, and many couples have recovered completely after one or both have had affairs.

### **THE MENTAL AFFAIR**

This is considered one of the most destructive forms of adultery. It is where one or both partners are fantasizing about someone other than their partner. It builds expectations that the other partner can never hope to fulfill. The mental affair splits a persons emotions and causes a complete break down in communication and feelings in the relationship. The mental affair also causes inexplicable anger, inexplicable frustrations, hidden guilt and shame that will remain undealt with. This type of an affair can cause depression and a numbing of the effects of guilt. After the guilt is numbed it can lead to the physical adultery, and all kinds of sin, you loose your ability to see sin.

**Once the guilt is numbed you loose you ability to see sin.**

### **THE OOPS**

The OOPS is a "**one time**" thing that neither party involved can really explain. Any prior planing makes this a physical affair, not an OOPS.

You hear statements like:

"I can not explain why or what happened".

"We started talking about subjects we shouldn't have".

"Something came over me, I don't know what happened"

The OOPS usually happens with some one the violator and violated both know, or happens during high stress times. In any case the betrayed are hurt and violated, yet at the same time the violator is just as hurt and completely ashamed. Unfortunately after committing the act, it is common for the violator, without realizing it, to start a self-destruct attitude in the relationship through guilt. Most of the time the violated does not even know it has happened, and most of the time the violator will not realize they are in a self-destruction mode. The violators guilt produces a self punishment mode. Often destroying the relationship. Because the guilt is so devastating the violator will sometimes blame the violated for their act. This is the ultimate form of selfishness in a relationship, to blame the other person for something you have done.

The OOPS is a little easier to forgive and can be worked out. The violated or betrayed needs to look at this as an OOPS, which takes a great deal of love and commitment. It also takes a little time and should never ever again be brought up or used as a weapon. The violators OOPS partner should be removed from the couples lives. In this the violator better be prepared to take there medicine.

A lot of humility and groveling are in order.

# **The Lawyer**

The lawyer will take control and stop all communication. His first advise will be to stop talking all together. This is the biggest reason to wait before seeing a lawyer. If you have decided that seeing the lawyer is the only way, then be prepared to live with and take responsibility for the decisions he will make for you. The lawyer cares nothing about you or your spouse. The Lawyer will seemingly be your best friend, but in reality, his motive is your money. The lawyer cares nothing about your children or your partner. The lawyer can make a kind act by your partner seem like an attack and will convince you that you have to go through with this. The lawyer does this while they are telling you that you do not have to go through with this. Remember, a lawyer is trained and lives to manipulate. This is his job and he will do it to the best of his ability. Your welfare does not, at all, interest him; only your money.

The lawyer can cause you to hate your partner worse than ever. How ? by cutting all communications, leaving you to assume everything. He will tell you horror stories of past divorces and scare the living daylights out of you. He will do his best to keep you apart, and if you had a friend or relative go to the lawyer with you, then this person will constantly re-enforce what the lawyer said.

Now lets look at another angle. There are people that can get going with the flow of all the attention and the emotional hype of the moment. Suddenly this person will have center stage and once they get caught in that mode, it becomes like a drug and a matter of pride. Some people will even lie and manipulate to hold that center stage. Then one day this person looks back and sees that they held it all right, but at the expense of everyone around them. Sometimes this person will not even realize what they have done until they are going through the next divorce or the divorce of one of your children.

1. Never make a decision without first considering the consequences and checking your motives.
2. Never make a decision while still angry or being pushed by some one else. When a person goes to someone and says, "what should I do." They are in a state of mind where the emotions are ruling them and their mind needs help making the decision. The mind, emotions and spirit are doing battle right now and you need to rest before making such a decision. Remember, the person advising you does not have to pay the price.

## **Points to Ponder**

### **THE Prison of Unforgiveness**

Forgiveness is a verb, in relation to one person forgiving another. It comes from the Greek word *hiemi* meaning to let go, suffer or yield up. To paraphrase it would mean to let go of or release the offense. So to forgive someone would mean you are releasing them from bondage, thus, releasing yourself from bondage, or prison.

The chains of unforgiveness hold both you and the offender in bondage. By maintaining unforgiveness you bind Gods hands in working in the other persons life and it inhibits your prayers. Look at (Matthew 6: 14-15)

*"For if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you.  
"But if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.*

If You do not yield, let go of or release your brothers trespass, God can not let go of yours. This takes us to Matthew 18: 22-35, read it and notice that the forgiven servant did not forgive. Because he could not forgive and held this other man in bondage, in prison, he himself ended up in prison right beside him, where he was tortured, until he had forgiven or paid his debit. The only way he had to pay his debit was to forgive the man that he had not forgiven.

The torture or as some translate it, " the tormentors, " are there as discipline or even punishment to turn us away from our unforgiveness.

This does not happen because our heavenly Father is a big bully waiting for his chance to club us. This happens because he loves us. He knows the destructive power of unforgiveness and seeks to remove this bondage as quickly as possible. The prison of unforgiveness is not a fun place to be. You are constantly tormented by the thoughts of revenge or the uneasiness you must endure every time this person is present, either physically or in thought.

Even if you were the offender and repented with your whole heart. Have you noticed that you can still feel the stick of the person who has not forgiven you. You find yourself slipping into guilt, even after you have begged for forgiveness. You shouldn't feel like this. The responsibility is upon the one who will not forgive.

The destructive power of unforgiveness is greater than any other violation or sin known to either God or man. When you hold someone in this prison you hold them in bondage to the very thing you seek to see changed in them. You can pray until you are blue in the face and it will not do a bit of good. (MK 11:25)

Whether it is forgiveness or unforgiveness, it is an action word. While praying and seeking God's wisdom before writing this, the Holy Spirit kept comparing forgiveness to love. Unforgiveness is the exact opposite of love. Yet it is almost its mirror image.

Love is an action word and is not a feeling. It is an unconditional, committed decision to do the will of God and serve another human being. It isn't an expression or a feeling.

Though the word, love, is often used to express a feeling of security or oneness. To use the word love in this way, when saying you love someone, you are in reality saying, " you effectively stimulate security and joy within me."

When you stand before God and vow to love this person till death do you part you are making a holy covenant promise to God. You are promising to sacrificially unconditionally serve this person for life. Yet when you say you do not love them anymore (no fault divorce) you are saying, "I have made a selfish decision to not forgive this person for not effectively stimulating joy and security within me." or "I have made a decision to not forgive this person for effectively breaking my heart (Adultery) or betraying our covenant." Otherwise, "I have decided not to love or forgive my partner."

Here we see that love and forgiveness are unconditional sacrificial decisions to put into practice God's will in our relationships with our partners. We also see that, not to love or to walk in unforgiveness is a decision also. So if you end up in the prison of unforgiveness along side your partner, being tormented by the torturers it is a choice you have made. So blaming them will not hold any water with God. Your only way out of that bondage is to forgive, just like he forgives you. Look at the two verses, right above (Matthew 6:14-15).

*And forgive us our debts,  
As we forgive our debtors.  
And do not lead us into temptation,  
But deliver us from the evil one.*

*For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever.*

Our heavenly father forgives us "as" or after we have forgiven. After we have forgiven then he can deliver us from the evil one, the tormentor. Until we have forgiven, the tormentors have a legal right to torment us.

What are some of the natural effects of unforgiveness.

1. Relationships fall apart.
  - a. Even your relation with God.
2. Critical attitudes develop.
  - a. Defending your position.
3. Effects the physical health and the mental health.
  - a. Uneasy and depressed.
4. Effects everyone around you.
  - a. You never relax, causing stress on everyone around you.

5. God can not protect you.
    - a. The tormentors, satans workers, have nothing to stop them.
  6. Your finances are wide open to the tormentors to use against you.
    - a. (Matt. 18:22-35)
  7. You leave your children wide open to attack.
    - a. If you are being tormented, your children will reap all you have sown, with you.
  8. God can not protect your job.
    - a. The enemy has legal rights before God when he come to accuse you.
- The list goes on and on.

Love and unforgiveness can be compared to nuclear power. Nuclear powers negative side would be a bomb. Take that same power and apply it positively and it warms homes and families. It supplies lighting and the power that can supply warmth to many homes.

Love and unforgiveness are equal in power and strength. One can utterly destroy and the other can bring healing and warmth. Love can conquer and wipe away unforgiveness. Unforgiveness can conquer and wipe away love. Whichever one you feed the most will be the strongest and dominant factor in your life. Whichever one you use the most will be dominant. Like a right handed persons right hand is dominant. But if you disable the right hand and force the left to work, it will become dominant. Cutting unforgiveness out ones life is not as easy as cutting off a hand, though there are those that would give up their dominant hand to be free of the unforgiveness.

*MK 11:25*

*"And whenever you stand praying,  
if you have anything against anyone,  
forgive him, that your Father in heaven  
may also forgive you your trespasses."*

Here we see how and why our prayers are inhibited. Have you been standing in faith for something and never seem to see any results? King David said it better than anyone, has ever said it, *"Search me, O God, and know my heart; .....And see if there is any wicked way in me, And lead me in the way everlasting."* (PS 139:23-24) Here we see the heart of David. "Search me..." Have you asked God to search your heart for what might be forgotten or misplaced unforgiveness ? Could there be a wall between you and the very thing you have been praying for ?

Sometimes forgiving is harder than giving up your hand. You would much rather loose your dominant hand than forgive his person for what they have done to you. When it comes to an intimate relationship, like marriage, the littlest things can hurt deep. The hurt goes so deep it strangles the life(love)out of you. Forgiveness is not a feeling, It is a decision. Does forgiving mean you have to trust this person ? No it does not. Once trust is broken, it must first be repaired and then re-earned. Forgiving someone is very hard and some times begins with the willingness to be willing to forgive. Only God can take you to that point. He can help you reach the point of wanting to forgive, if you ask him.

*.....You fight and war. Yet you do not have because you do not ask.  
(JMS 4:2 )*

The tinniest acts of love can tear down that unforgiveness. Your little action of love might start with a little prayer for this person. A little "Bless them Lord" pulls the tormentors whip back. Then one day you wrap your arms around them in total love. God reaches down at this point and he personally removes the tormentors from both your lives. The healing is well on it's way. Now you can work on the trust again. Some get through this process faster than others. Some are willing to sacrifice a great deal to reach total forgiveness. Are you willing ? To be willing ?

Another point and one that is being seen more and more, is the person who manages to hold unforgiveness towards another person for something that was never done. Are you holding unforgiveness towards a person on the grounds of a story you made up to bring validity to your

testimony or justification. Are there any stories like this in your life ? Or could you be believing someone else's story? Did you begin to believe the story yourself ? Have you been imprisoned over false testimony, your own ? Exaggeration is all a part of the anger and hurt that goes along with separation and depression. Have you exaggerated, do you have anything that you need to make right, so you can enjoy freedom and peace of mind once again ?

Do you want to be Free

*Then repeat this little prayer:*

*Lord, please forgive my unforgiveness.  
Help me to forgive and release me and ( ) from the prison of unforgiveness. Bless ( )  
and open a door for me to show your love to ( ).  
Thank You Lord for hearing my prayer.  
Amen*

## SELFISHNESS

**What part does selfishness play?** (Romans 2:8) (Galatians 5:19-26)

Selfishness is the most destructive form of pride.

Selfishness is the root that destroys all relationships.

It makes it impossible to fulfill God's will in our lives.

It also destroys our relationship with God.

**How can one be selfish and forgive ?** (1John 2:11)

It is impossible to forgive and be selfish.

It is impossible to hold on to one's selfish needs and forgive.

**How does Selfishness effect my life ?**

Selfishness will fuel the bitterness, anger, loneliness and false thinking.

Selfishness is the essence of humanistic, feminist, materialistic and religious thinking.

Selfishness will hide in the form of " setting boundaries ".

A selfish person cannot love. (1Corinthians 13:5)

Selfishness says, " I, me, those men, those women, that man, that woman.

**Now What ? (Matthew 5: 43-48)**

You can not effectively walk in selfishness without unforgiveness.

Forgiveness is mercy, Love is grace. Matthew 22:37-40

You cannot be Selfish when walking in Forgiveness & Grace.

## ANGER

**What is Anger ?**

Anger has many faces and is very deceptive.

Anger is :

Satan's means of controlling your mind, mouth and emotions.

To look upon with great emotion (Negative)

Is treated and judged the same as murder by our heavenly Father.

Anger will cause you to do  
and think things you never  
would have done before.

This is why Paul wrote in Ephesians 4: 26 that you should not allow the sun to go  
down on your anger. Left to brew anger turns into hate. To hate is the same as  
murder, because you hold both you and the person, or organization, in  
bondage. You will murder or kill a relationship with the grief you are forced to put  
between you and the other person, denomination or church. You can not hate without  
selfishness and unforgiveness.

**Are there consequences for anger ? (Matthew 5:22)**

Yes there are. We see in Matthew that God will not even accept your sacrifices

when you are angry with someone.

**But I have forgiven, yet I still get angry !**

Forgiveness is very important ! Unforgiveness is like a cancer that will eat your life away. You will get angry and experience these emotions. But you must decide you are forgiving the other person.

**How do you avoid unforgiveness and anger?**

By changing your expectations of that person, and yourself.

By changing your expectations in the relationship.

**So what do you do about Anger ? (1Corinthians 13)**

Acts of love will kill Anger.

You can not remain angry when you walk in love and forgiveness. Because when you walk in Love & Forgiveness you walk in Grace & Mercy. Both are Godly attributes and nothing can penetrate them. Yet it is not an easy walk at times, humans being humans, this is tested daily and sometimes several times a day. (Matthew 6:15)

LONELINESS

Loneliness is a very dark place to be, especially when accompanied by aloneness.

When you were so use to having that special person in your life and then suddenly that relationship is being ripped apart, your needs, in regards to companionship are suddenly not being met. Even in the worse relationships I hear people say things like, " I never thought I would miss her nagging " or " I never thought I would miss picking up his underwear".

**So many have said:**

" I laid there in bed with my partner and the loneliness was unbelievable".

" They could no longer meet my emotional needs [desires] in this area, so I divorced them ".

" I needed someone that could satisfy those lonely feelings ".

" I thought I had found someone I loved but all they did was temporarily make that lonely feeling go away. Now I am worse off than before."

*No human being can take away  
the loneliness all the time,  
you can only get temporary relief at best.*

**Rebound Destruction:**

As humans we long for companionship, but we have come to depend on people to fill this need or desire in our lives. This is where a lot of people are utterly destroyed by rebound relationships. A rebound relationship can only produce sin and misery. Rebound relationships are sought out because of emotional needs a person is not willing to give to God. He can meet every mental or emotion need you have.

**Trust:**

You have trusted another human with your emotional and mental needs and look where it has gotten you. The pain that goes beyond all understand, now you fight emotional responses like: Anger, Loneliness, Resentment, Bitterness, Depression, Desperation, Fear; and the list goes on and on. You can be in this state and not even be thinking about divorce.

God will not let you down.

He will never leave you nor will he ever forsake you. He will not betray you or abuse you.

Trust God with your emotional needs  
and you will never be lonely again.

## **Depression**

Depression is a terrorizing state of mind. The sense of loss, hopelessness, fear, anxiety, loneliness, guilt and thoughts of self destruction. Yet with all it's terror and confusion it is a normal state of mind during & after the divorce process. Believe it or not depression is a process of healing.

During this time you are going see yourself as you have never seen yourself before. Depression exposes every emotion and sin in your life. It will force you to do one of two things.

1. You will draw closer to God and total restoration.
  - a. You cannot totally heal without God in your life.
2. You will draw closer to the world and your fleshly desires, leading you to destruction.
  - a. Here the person goes into a major flesh attack. They will do things they never thought they would ever consider just a few months prior.

## **Decision Making**

Making the smallest decision during this time is very difficult and almost impossible. Your enemy, Satan, is waiting for his opportunity to destroy you. It does not matter whether or not you are a Christian at this point. Satan knows how open you are to the Holy Spirit at this point in time and he is going to try to keep you away from God.

During this time you are wide open to suggestion. Mix the depression with anger and you might do something really stupid, especially if prompted by someone close to you.

You might be getting advise or hearing things like:

1. " Divorce them, you don't have to do this, God wouldn't want you to go through this," " we will stand by you."
2. " I would just smash their car, if I were you."
3. " There is no way I would let them see the children, if I were you."
4. " Just let them leave and find yourself a friend of the opposite sex."

You are probably hearing these statements or some that are really close. Be careful because your enemy seeks to destroy you during this time. You must seek Godly advise and rely on Gods word for direction.

If the person you are talking to is angry with your partner their advise will be tainted, or they could be angry with you and setting you up. It has also been know that a person will advise someone to do something they themselves want to do but do not have the courage to do it themselves. These type of things have happened. Third party meddlers are responsible for more break-ups than anything else. Satan may not be able to get to you, but he might, very well, be able to get to your closest friend or even you parents. The only one you can truly trust right now is God and His Word.

Get involved with a Christian Support Group. I highly recommend DivorceCare support groups. They are centered on the healing process and will help you in taking those first steps to recovery.

## **FAMILY ABORTION**

A Christian will have nothing to do with abortion. But splitting the family is the next best thing to destroying a child's life. Divorce is " Family Abortion," divorce is a form of abortion "acceptable " or tolerated by most Christians.

The divorce rate is over 70%. America is "Satans Family Abortion Clinic" divorce being Satans alternative abortion method, among Christians. It is the next best thing to destroying a child's life, and tolerated by most churches. Satan has got to stop the end time generation, and



what better way, than to destroy the end time family. The most powerful weapon against him is a united family that has weathered the storms.

Satan's plan has begun to back fire on him, the men are finding one another and becoming a powerful force. Thanks to computers, we are connecting all over the world. There is nothing like major emotional trauma to shake us guys up a little.

Satan can see and know how dangerous a child will be in the future and may be attacking Mom & Dad for the sole purpose of getting to the child, or it could be Mom or Dad that Satan fears. I believe this is true because I know what the Spirit has told me, and throughout the bible you see how Satan went after the children and whole families.

Satan must stop the end time generation.

If Satan can not abort the child while still in the mother's womb,  
he will do everything possible to abort the family.

Using the humanistic, materialistic, feministic, religious poison injected into the last generation. Satan is destroying the children and this generation's families, using the words ***Freedom, Rights, Abuse and Divorce.***

Christians and christian like organizations will stand outside an abortion clinic and pray. They do everything they can legally, to save that child, but when it comes to Divorce, they run away. Why ?

Divorce is the ultimate blasphemy to God's Word and Will. I had a person in a group put it this way, " *Where is your God and Church, If this is what Christians do to one another, I want no part of it. If this is how the Church treats its people, I want no part of it.*" They all walked away, they wanted no part of false Love, or "lip service " as they put it. They get that right where they are. At least they know where they stand on the streets.

***What message is the world getting?***

**In essence, non-believers, figure Christians are worse than they are, and in a way they are right, when it comes to divorce.**

**Most churches are not doing much about it.**

If you are reading this you are involved in some level of Divorce.

Whether you are just thinking about it or know someone who is, you are a witness to great suffering, or you are suffering from the agonizing effects of separation or divorce.

If You Are Suffering From: Anger; Loneliness; Despair; Depression; Desperation; Betrayal; And maybe few emotions you can not identify yet; be encouraged, it will get better, I have been right where you are.

The Pain is indescribable and confusion is everywhere, making a decision is very difficult . By writing this book I hope to assist you in making those decisions by offering you hope and peace in the situation you are in. This book is designed to educate and encourage you, and you will, find support and compassion here.

Separation and Divorce can be a devastating and a terrifying experience. It is a lifetime experience, cutting deep within the heart and the emotions. The effects of this experience are, at times, more damaging than the cause. No matter what anyone tells you, it is a decision that will effect you for the rest of your life and the lives you might impose this decision on.

Here is a situation that I am discovering to be more and more true all the time.

A wife has stood and prayed for her husband for, maybe, years. Satan realizes he is losing his grip on the husband so he switches his extreme efforts to the wife who has been praying all this time. Suddenly she is afraid, when she wasn't afraid before and this inexplicable fear starts controlling her moods and decision making. Or suddenly she starts experiencing an inexplicable anger. Satan just has to tell her it is all her husband's fault and now she has a channel and a place to focus the blame. The Satan only has to bring in a person to re-enforce her fears and anger.

Later we find out that the Holy Spirit had been working on the husband and had been right on the edge of salvation when the wife suddenly turned the other direction. This applies to the reverse as well. It could be the husband that is standing and experiencing the fear or anger.

Divorce is often the tool used to retaliate or seek vengeance on the unforgiving, vow violating or abusive partner. More often being instigated by the guilt of an offending partner . This is especially true in the church. There is usually more emotional damage done in the divorce process than could have ever happened in ten years of marriage. Betrayal, Guilt and Anger are very powerful driving forces that induce all sorts of hostilities. Both partners are forced to re-live every negative moment of that relationship and then more negative is being injected through the divorce process. Suddenly all ten years of a ten year marriage was terrible, yet we know this isn't true. Small things are blown way out of proportion and innocent statements are suddenly being referred to as abuse. The children are effected and traumatized for life.

*THE CHILDREN, DO NOT JUST GET OVER IT.*

In the divorce process there is anger, bitterness, confusion, selfishness, a need to defend ones reputation and self . Both parties go into survival mode and things can get real ugly. On top of everything else you have all the loneliness, guilt, betrayal and that gut wrenching pain.

There are thousands and thousands that say, " I wanted to work things out But.....". That " but " usually happened after the separating. Then through Selfishness and Pride the relationship ends with the judges signature. Reconciliation has also been undermined by third party peer pressure, or relatives

Here in this book we hope to offer other avenues and educate you on your decision or the decisions being made for you. We hope to assist you in recovery, rebuilding and hopefully reconciliation with God.

# Who Is The Enemy ?

*Do You know who your  
"Real" Enemies Are?*

## **Your Enemies do not include:**

***Your Partner***

***Your Children***

***Your In-Law's***

***Your Family***

***Or Your Partners Lover***

## **Your Enemy is: (Eph. 6:12)**

For we do not battle flesh and blood. [Our Partners]

We fight ***principalities,***

We fight ***powers,***

We fight ***rulers of the darkness***

We fight ***spiritual hosts of wickedness***

*Your Partner is not the Devil.*

*Divorce is a Spirit*

*It can turn into a Generational Curse !*

When things seem to be getting out of control,  
it is time to find out who is in control.

## **Baal/Asherah**

Satan is not attacking the home but is wooing the woman and weak minded men into his trap. He is using everything including the kitchen sink. Satan has created a person that is not real. In the old testament his/her name was Baal and Asherah.

This person does not exist. He Baal, She Asherah can only live on television, videos, theaters, books, magazines and in the minds and imaginations of those whom Satan chooses and those who dwell on and make sacrifices unto Baal or Asherah.

If you were to look at his picture he is every woman's dream, because he can be anything to any woman. He woos her with her own desires and imagination, and gives her visions of things that only exist in the minds and imaginations of the writers. The same is true with men who worship Asherah. She is everything to every Man. She has other names like Isis, and has been around for a long, long time. These false Gods install false expectations that no partner can accomplish. They lovingly bring division and strife into the homes and minds of the believer and non believer alike. Baal's greatest lure is selfish desires, he knows your secret desires, hopes and dreams. He will use them to destroy you. The cults cater to the flesh and are very effective. They are very good at soothing the confused & hurting, because they offer what the flesh craves. They offer their god, with names like, goddess, sex, money, selfishness, television, the job, porn..... just about any worldly desire, but it all boils down to one thing, to serve and worship one's own selfishly desires.

***Just what are we facing  
here in these last days.***

We see it in 2 Timothy 3:1-9.[Notice verses 3 and 4].

See the word un-Loving or "without natural affection." Mass Divorce was predicted by Paul centuries ago, and this was describing a falling away of family loyalties. "Without natural affections" is describing a loss of love for family members. Look at what happens. When there is a loss of loyalties and commitment between husband and wife you get a traitor and a (truce-breaker). The word for truce-breaker in the Greek actually means "irreconcilable differences." The word traitor actually means "Willing to break an oath in order to make a quick gain." Which results in being "heady," which means "a Quick Fix." These verses refer to divorce, un-loving, traitors and irreconcilable differences, they will immediately result in "false accusers." The words "false accuser" translates into the word "devil," which means people are going to get so good at lying and accusing that you will think you are dealing with the devil. Now look again at verse 4 and notice the word "Traitors" It means "*willing to break an oath in order to make quick gain*". Otherwise these people do not think in terms of tomorrow, they do not think long term. They think short term and have a "*I do not care about the long term effects of my decision, what can it do for me right now.*" They really do not care about what's going to happen to anyone else down the road, including the children. They convince themselves that they are doing it for the children, which has been proven a lie, over and over again. They make *hasty, quick, reckless decisions* not thinking their way through it, making things a little more comfortable in the "*right now*" is all that concerns them.

We all know that the devil hates anything Godly. The devil has worked a lot of overtime to see to the destruction of the home. The home (family) is God's first and most holy institution, breaking up the family this is a *trophy kill for the devil*.

Read 1TM 4:1 and 1JN 4:1.

Here Paul was referring to seducing spirits or "sorcery." He is speaking of people and pastors here. (*many false prophets*) is referring to people, both men and women. They are not going to point blank lie, yet they will deceive or slowly lead you away and down the wrong paths, and will usually be someone very close to you or someone you trust. These people are very convincing because they themselves are deceived. This is why we are to be grounded in and believe only the Word of God.

Then you have the familiar spirits that come around and drop seed thoughts into the imaginations of you and your loved ones. We must be ready and committed to the Word of God so we will not be deceived. Your television is also playing with the imagination of you and your loved ones.

We are to test the spirits, *whether they are of God*, with the Word of God. If it does not go along with the word, and we do it, it is an act of rebellion (witchcraft). Anything that goes opposite of God's Word is judged *witchcraft*.

Keep in mind, always, that Satan is the "Lord of Lies" he is very good at it. His favorite way of getting to someone is by baiting them with what appears to be a desire of their heart. It could be a car, a house, a job or someone that has these things.

Satan is like a fisherman, he *Baits* his hook according to the Appetite of the fish.

### ***Have you been Baited?***

From testimonies and research I discovered a trick Satan uses to keep families apart upon separation. When a partner leaves, especially the woman, the gates of hell spring open and satanic blessings are heaped on the violator. The devil is determined to trick you into thinking this is God, or trick you into thinking this is better. Selfishness is in control if you believe these things.

The blessings come in the form of materialistic things like a new job, car and a home. Satan lets up on the violator and they think things are better. They start enjoying a false peace of mind, but this is only temporary to get the violator to relax. Satan's ultimate goal is to destroy them. He will even arrange for someone to be there when they are weakened, to ease their discomfort. He will bring someone that seems to meet their expectations and emotional needs. This person is being controlled by demonic forces. They [the enemy] know just what you are looking for and will do everything to supply your every desire, temporarily. After all, they planted that seed, they know how to water it. They also know of this other person's weaknesses and they will manifest after the remarriage.

They [familiar spirits] will whisper just the right words into this person's ear and they will speak just what the violator wants to hear. The violators are being baited and set up, later they will discover they have jumped from the frying pan into the fire.

Familiar spirits, ***spirits who know everything there is to know about you***, will speak to a person, reassuring them that everything is OK, that God will forgive them and their happiness is all that matters to him [God]. This is Ultimate Selfishness ! "He [Satan] will come as an angel of light" . Yes he will, Satan will quote them scripture and even bring religious people to them to justify their actions.

Common *Lies* Satan starts planting into a violator or truce-breaker are:

#### **God will forgive you, you can start all over.**

- a. Yes he will forgive you, but there will be a high price to pay.

#### **God has released you from this marriage, due to .....**

- a. He loves to tell this one to the women. But men are saying it to. Especially if there has been a unfaithful type violation in the wedding vows.

#### **See how well things are going since you left. God must be behind what you are doing.**

- a. Satanic Blessings, to lure you into his ultimate trap.

#### **You do not have to take this anymore. God's grace will be with you, you have to leave, nothing is going to change.**

- a. Satan can really put the pressure on, at times you will have unexplained anger and feel as though you are going to lose your mind. This is satanic, you need to bind Satan's power and communicate these things to your partner or pastor.

#### **NOTE:**

Satan loves to, get a partner to, make the other partner leave. This is very common. Then, sometimes, not even realized until it is too late.

**Satan can make an excuse taste like " God's Word " .**

#### **Statements made by truce-breakers include:**

" We were divorced, spiritually, long before I left"

" He is not a spiritual leader in the home"  
" We missed it, we were never to be married "  
" She is not a submissive wife"  
" He/She treats the children wrong "  
" God would not make me go through this" (marriage problems)  
" God has someone else who will treat me as I should [want to be] treated "  
" They will never change", " Nothing will change".  
" I have found my soul mate "  
" I am not "in love" anymore." [I choose not to love anymore]

There is positively no scripture to back up these excuses or statements that condones divorce. They are lies from Hell! If you are listening to one of these lies. It is not God.(2COR 11:14 ) To believe one of these lies is self deception. Self deception is the worst kind of deception. It is the most difficult to overcome because it is a excuse or lie you have decided to believe to cover sin and guilt. (GAL 6:7 ) Not a thought or word has any power until it is believed. Once believed is has great power in your life. What you believe is your choice. Choose wisely !

### ***Are You Being Baited?***

Has Satan placed someone in your life who is encouraging a humanistic or materialistic line of thought.

Are you thinking that you can do better?  
Are wrong things filling your dreams?  
Is some one telling you that you can do better?  
Has Satan Placed Someone in your life other than your mate?  
Are you having a mental affair with someone?  
Are you dealing with unexplainable anger?  
Do you find you are wanting what someone else has? (Someone's partner)  
Is your anger telling you that all your problems are because of your mate?  
Are you jealous of someone else's relationship?  
Do you feel you have missed something  
and want to spread your wings of freedom ?  
Do the things of this world, house, job, car ect... seem to important?  
Are you being selfish with your feelings towards your mate?  
Do you find yourself fantasizing about how life would be with someone else?  
Do you find yourself thinking, "Nothing will change"?  
Is some one telling you that nothing will change?

This is all bait, are you starting to believe it ?  
Or have you already taken the bait ?

All these thoughts are geared toward self. They are lies from hell, but believed by the Violator. Satan can make an excuse taste like " Gods Word." So you need to be careful who you receive from. Satan is the Lord of Lies and deception, he knows the word better than we do and can twist it to meet his needs.

Another common practice Satan uses, if he can, is to use a trusted person you know to cast doubt into you. Like Satan tried to use Peter to cast doubt into Jesus. He knew he would be recognized in a moment if he tried to speak to anyone that was saved and walked in the anointing. So he disguises his voice through someone you already trust and/or respect.

**Testing the Spirits  
Who is in control ?**

What is the main topics of conversation in your Home?

\_\_\_\_\_ (PHIL 4:8, EPH. 4:29)

How is Love expressed in your Home?

\_\_\_\_\_ (ROM 12:10, 1COR 13:4)

How do you deal with hardship in your Home?

\_\_\_\_\_ (2TM 2:3, 2TM 2:15)

Are You giving your first fruits to God?

\_\_\_\_\_ (MAL 3:8&10)(LK 12:24)

**Key ingredients to look for in the Home**

**Is There any:**

Selfishness(root cause for all divorces)      Domineering person

Pride

Lack of Trust

Unforgiveness

Materialism

Anger

Satanic symbols (Music, TV,

Posters ect...)

Strife

Sexual immorality

(fantasizing)

Backbiting

Course speech (course

jesting)

**Do not fight against family.  
It will only leave you standing alone.  
They will look on it as an attack.**

Does it seem as though something else  
is in control of your home?  
Here are some very simple steps you can take.

1. Do not start looking for demons in door knobs. Satan loves it when you concentrate on him rather than the Word of God.
  - a. When you bind Satans power in your home you have declared war. Expect a counter attack.
2. Put Jesus in control of your Home.
  - a. You must relinquish "control" to the Holy Spirit. He will fight the fight and give you wisdom.
3. If there is any unforgiveness in your heart you must get rid of it. It could be the open door.

- a. Unforgiveness opens a huge door for the enemy and can bring Gods Holy discipline. (MT 18:18-35)
  - b. When there is unforgiveness, you hold the person you have not forgiven in bondage to the very thing you want to see changed.
- 4. Remove any strife (anger) from your life.
  - a. It gives place to the devil and gives him, legal, control of the situation. (EPH 4:25-32)
- 5. Get into the Word of God and begin reading scripture out loud in your home. (very important)
  - a. This drives the enemy nuts. This is how Jesus and every effective child of God does battle with Satan. He can not resist the Word of God.
- 6. You must also have a time of praise and worship.
  - a. You must also praise one another. Try it, it feels good.

### **Heavenly Protection**

(2COR 10:3-5)(JOB 1:10)

1. First you must be in right standing with God.
  - a. "Lord search my heart and reveal unto me any sin that would hinder my prayers"
2. Bind the enemy in your home.
  - a. "Satan I bind your power and influence in my home in the name of Jesus"
3. Pray for a "hedge of Protection" around your partner and children.
  - a. "Father, in the name of Jesus, place a hedge of protection around my home and family, and teach me to care for it"
4. Pray this prayer every day. Lay hands on and bless your children and your partner everyday.
  - a. By doing this you break the power of the enemy and tear down strongholds.
5. Cast down all false reasoning.
  - a. "false reasoning" are things that have influence on your family. Such as books, TV, false friends, false prophets.
  - b. "Father, In the name of Jesus I come against everything in my home that is bringing "false reasoning" into the hearts and minds of my family. "
6. Cast down every wrong thought.
  - a. " in the name of Jesus I bind every wrong thought that might manifest itself in my home."
7. Fast at least one day a week. (don't tell anyone).

Do not try to take things into your own hands. You will only cause more stress and your family may look at it as an attack on them. For instance; I wouldn't recommend throwing out the TV. You might have a riot on your hands. Instead find something else they might like to do, and you do it to.

You will start seeing changes in how your family thinks and reacts to worldly things in the home. They will see your dedication and start following it.

### **"The Unfaithful Partner"**

Three things will happen when you build a hedge around an unfaithful partner.

1. He or she may become confused and lose direction. (Hosea 2:6)
2. Any other "lovers" may loose interest and leave. (Hosea 2:7a)

3. Troubles may motivate your partner to return.(Hosea 2:7b)

Remember:

1. This prayer binds Satans power and influence in your partners life.
2. This prayer *isn't guaranteed* to change your partners *will* after the influences are removed.
3. It is very important that you follow up (Hosea 2:14-16).

Heavenly Father, I ask you in the name of Jesus to bind Satan . I ask you to build a hedge of thorns around [ my partner ] so that anyone with wrong influences will loose interest and leave.

I base my prayer on your Word,  
" what therefore God hath joined together let no man put asunder"  
Thank You Jesus for hearing and answering my prayer.

# Preparing For The Battle !

***Who is the center of your life***

Today is your day and you have to seize it.  
You can not wait until tomorrow or try to fix things on your own.

For this book to be effective you must first remove that cloud of unrighteousness between you and the throne room. Do not allow pride or selfishness to keep you from all that God wants you to have.

God is raising up a delta force, Divorce Warriors, specialist trained for the purpose of fighting this battle. Are you willing, are you angry enough to fight ? Have you witnessed Satans attack, does it make you angry? I have seen it and it has made me angry. So I stepped out, strapped on my armor, raised my sword, and got into the battle. What a battle it is. It makes every human war look like a walk in the park. Yet when it looks as though I might fall under the stress and heat of conflict , Jesus, our commander is always there to hold me and encourage me. The anointing comes and I am renewed with a supernatural strength that only the Holy Spirit brings.

The number one requirement is to have your heart right before God. In preparing for battle your armor can not have any holes in it. The things that leave you open are:  
(ROM 1:29)

1. Religion (JMS 1:26)
2. Selfishness (PHIL 2:3)
3. Unforgiveness (MT 18:33-35)
4. Sexual Immorality (1COR 5:1)
5. Lies (JMS 3:14 )
6. Gossip, *Whisperings* (2COR 12:20)
7. Pride (1JN 2:16)
8. False Humility (MK 7:22)



You can now begin a whole new life.

Today is the day, you are not reading this by accident.

### *Salvation*

Would you like to receive Jesus as your personal Savior and allow him to fight this battle for you and do a wondrous work within you? And spend eternity in Heaven.

Repeat this simple prayer from your heart.

**"Jesus, come into my heart. I am a sinner and ask that you forgive me for my life of sin. I confess with my mouth that you are Lord Jesus and believe in my heart that God has raised you from the dead, and believe by faith I am now saved. According to the Word of God. Amen**

If you just repeated this prayer I would like to welcome you into the family of God. You are clean, through the blood of Jesus. You are a child of the Great " I AM ". The one and only God.

Now there are things you must do:  
Go tell someone what you have just done.  
Find a good bible believing, bible teaching church.

### **Baptism**

I received Jesus as my Lord and Savior on \_\_\_\_\_.

### *Fellowship*

Or maybe you have already received Jesus into your heart and have allowed the cares of this world to get between you and Jesus. Now you find yourself wounded, broken and out of fellowship with him. Life is a mess and you have this lonely empty feeling deep within you. That is the spirit longing for fellowship with Jesus. I have heard thousands say that they go to bed at night and feel lonely, with there partner right there, not realizing that it was their spirit crying out for fellowship with God.

You can now begin a whole new life in Jesus.  
Today is the day, you are not reading this by accident.  
Repeat the following:

**Jesus I have sinned and want to restore my fellowship with you.  
Your Word says "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins  
and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness".  
Jesus, Forgive me of my sins and cleanse me now. Thank You Jesus  
for hearing and answering my prayer. Amen**

If you just repeated this prayer, I want to be the first to welcome you home.

I Restored my fellowship with Jesus on \_\_\_\_\_.

### *Religious Spirit*

Here is a trap that people are falling into these days. It is called "Religion". Jesus hated religion. He referred to it as lukewarm water to be spit out. Religious people are self-deceived and can cause many to fall and/or live unfruitful lives. They are people that honor God with their speaking and long prayers, but they do not honor Him with their hearts. They creep into our homes and deceive us, taking captive the weaker ones whom are without the full knowledge of the truth. (Matthew 15:8-9) They have a form of godliness but deny its power. You should stay away from people like this. They are always learning but never finding the truth. (2 Timothy 3:5-7)

### **ARE YOU LIVING A RELIGIOUS LIFESTYLE**

Repeat The Following:

Jesus, I have sinned. I am living a religious life.  
I want the fullness of you within me.

Your Word says, "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness". Jesus, Forgive me for my selfishness, come into my heart and cleanse me now.

Thank You Jesus for hearing and answering my prayer. Amen

You may not realize it right now, but you have just made a very powerful decision. It is very hard to come back from a religious lifestyle.

I Denounced my religious lifestyle on \_\_\_\_\_.

### ***There is no Condemnation*** (Romans 8:1)

The first thing the enemy is going to do, is try and weigh you down with your past. He has to slow you down and/or stop you from receiving God's blessings and protection. You are now a new creature in Christ Jesus. Satan will do all he can to snatch away the truth being planted in you. (Matthew 13:19)

It is my hope and prayer that I can help you come to a better understanding so that Satan can not steal the Word that is being sown in you today. I pray everyday for the Holy Spirit's knowledge and wisdom in my everyday walk with Him. There is no Condemnation for those in Christ Jesus and walk according to the Spirit and not according to your own lusts and desires. (Romans 8:2) *The number one rule to remember is, the Holy Spirit gently convicts, Satan condemns.* The Holy Spirit will convict you of things the two of you will be dealing with. Satan will accuse and condemn you in an attempt to overload you by getting you to do too much at once. With condemnation comes fear. Fear is not of God. Satan will try to frustrate and

break you by terrorizing you with your past, he will even use his influence on those around you. You must pray for them. Remember, God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power, love and a sound mind. (2TM 1:7) Giving it all to Jesus, your entire life and situation, is one of the hardest things you will do, but it is vital to your recovery & restoration. We as humans have a craving to be in control. There will be no condemnation because you have given the problem to Jesus. You have planted bad seed and there will be a harvest. If you have given it to Jesus then God's Mercy and Grace will be with you during this time of reaping. I wish there was a way to avoid this, but there isn't. You can make the process easier by righting your wrongs and forgiving. (Galatians 6:7)

Prayer and the Word will make the stings heal quicker and not hurt as much, but be careful of excuse making and take responsibility for your Harvest (actions). As Jesus roots up and exposes the bad crop you need to be planting good seed in its place. It may take a little while before you start seeing the fruit of the seed you are now planting. But stand firm and do not allow the enemy to steal what has been planted. Wait, expecting a harvest.

### ***Getting to Know God***

You have either just come to know Jesus or you have been gone for a while and need to re-establish your relationship with Him. Getting to know your Father isn't as hard as you might think. But like in any relationship, you are only going to get out of it what you put into it. Relax in His care and allow Him to make the changes. Otherwise spend as much time as possible with Him.

### ***The Word, the Word of God is Jesus***

Daily time in God's Word will cause changes in your heart and life, without thinking about it. It is here you will find your destiny. As He speaks to you through His Word (His Son, Jesus) miracles will happen in your life. There is great power in those Words

Read at least four chapters from Psalms and one from Proverbs everyday for a month. This is the heart of God. You will see Jesus here, clearer than anywhere else in the bible. Here you will see his Love, Mercy, Grace, Wrath and Judgment. Every aspect of God's character can be found in these two books. Read out loud, it drives the enemy nuts.

Read The Gospel of John, Acts and Romans; first read them through. Later, you can study out parts. Right now concentrate on getting the Word in you. With it comes a great anointing. Memorize verses and chapters that stand out to you. Especially the ones that step on your toes.

### ***Daily Prayer (communion)***

He wants to hear your requests. He enjoys the closeness that is established, and so will you. Praying draws you closer and into the presents of God. Here is where He gives you those supernatural hugs and gives you insight into your situation or circumstances. Here is where you make your requests known. (PHIL 4:6 )

Jesus told us that we should pray in order to avoid temptations. Who tempts us? Not God! (LK 22:40)

If you hurt, He wants to hear about it. He is the only one you can have the security in knowing it will not be repeated. He wants to hear about your doubts and fears. His Love goes way beyond anything you can imagine.

### ***Your Motives and Intent***

1CHRON 28:9

Your motives for rebuilding or recovering are extremely important. It will determine whether or not what you are doing is for Jesus or for selfish reasons. This could turn into the ultimate form of manipulation and you will not get the response you are looking for. Remember, selfishness is the number one root cause to every divorce situation.

Lets check your motives:  
Why are you seeking after God right now ?  
Why are you reading this study guide?

If you answered, "to repair my marriage" then you might have a problem. Your motive should be to make your ways pleasing unto the Lord and to learn His ways. Though repairing your marriage is a great motivation. We are to seek Him first and everything else will be added. (MT 6:33) (ISA 58:2) This is a promise, a covenant promise between you and God.

Do not be fooled by your own thoughts. Satan can trick you into thinking you have the right motives when in fact it is nothing but a satanic lie. He uses this one on the ladies quiet effectively, because there thoughts are also feelings. They relate a lot of memories and thought to feelings. If Satan can generate a feeling it is misinterpreted as heart. This works with the guys to but not as effective or as lasting.

### ***Honoring The Lords Day*** (Isaiah 58:13)

You should get on your knees right now and ask Gods forgiveness if you are not honoring the Lords Day. Then you need to ask your family for their forgiveness. As you can see this comes with a promise.

Honoring the Lords Day, not only refers to attendance, it also includes the giving of tithes, offerings, giving of yourself (the nursery) and entering into the teaching and fellowship, of the Lord.

You are important, God will use you to bless others. This is why fellowship is so important. Make it a special day of spiritual refreshment and closeness to God and your family, by dedicating this day the Lord.

Remember, honoring the Lords day starts the night before. Have clothing and whatever is needed ready in advance. This way, peace will rein instead of confusion.

At first try sitting down and making a list. This will help you form a very good habit. Iron things that need ironing and polish those shoes the night before so that Sunday morning will go smoothly and be less hectic. Work together and make plans for Sunday. Make it a day the entire family looks forward to.

Guys, fathers and husbands you need to take the lead on this. It is your God given responsibility. But ladies, if he is not there yet, do not condemn or push. ***Do not try to do the Holy Spirits Job.*** Guys, if you do not know how to iron I am sure your wife or mother in law will be tickled to show how, and your enthusiasm will bless her. You are able to get ready faster than she is, so take charge of the kids and let her do her Sunday morning prepping. You will be richly blessed by this. Learn where things are and just leave her alone to get ready. Pray and bless the Lords day. Do this as a family and you will be blessed, God will honor those prayers.

Jesus is going to return, and His return is but a breath away. Satan has launched and all out attack on the family and marriages. We can not fight him on his terms. You will loose without the anointing that comes with salvation.

# My Partner Has Left The first 60 Days

The Surprise!

This is a very tough time for you, so be very careful about making any major decisions. Your struggle and pain will be different weather you are male, female or have the kids. I have come up with a pretty good general plan.

***You are most likely experiencing that:***

*Pain that goes beyond all understand.*

Jesus is here for you, you are not alone.

SO WHAT DO YOU DO ?

## **PLEASE DO NOT DO ANYTHING IN ANGER !**

If you can avoid doing anything at all, except pray, it is best. I understand the pain and desperation to save your marriage and your sanity. But you must be careful. Do not allow yourself to be set up, because if you do something in anger, it can make things ten times worse and **add justification to your partners decisions and actions.** Remember that your partner is running on a high level of emotion also, no matter how numb they may appear, if you need to protect yourself, then do so legally.

**If you are reading this after the fact  
you may have already said or done some things.**

1. You need to ask forgiveness from anyone you talked negative to, about your partner.

List them : \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. Ask your partners forgiveness.

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Partners Name \_\_\_\_\_

3. Ask Gods Forgiveness

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Scripture \_\_\_\_\_

4. This includes the children. (very important) Ask their forgiveness.

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Children's Names: \_\_\_\_\_

5. **STOP! WAIT ! & LISTEN !** to the Holy Spirit.

Church or Support Person Phone Number : \_\_\_\_\_

You are running on a lot of emotion right now. Seek out your church leaders and **GET** into your prayer closet. We are talking about a crisis situation that needs to be put in Gods hands before you can mess things up.

6. If your partner has already retained legal counsel then you need to defend yourself, and do so with the right attitude. Satan is going to try and clobber you with all sorts of fear & worry. Satan knows how and when to trigger your imagination, he will do everything to get between you, God and your partner.

7. DO NOT PREACH AT YOUR PARTNER. Do not try and be the Holy Spirit, by taking matters into your own hands. If you want to do it, he will let you. Who do you want in control? (see Knowing your Enemy)

8. Get into the Word of God. Psalms & Proverbs.

Favorite Psalm: \_\_\_\_\_ Favorite Proverb: \_\_\_\_\_

### ***The Pain that Goes Beyond all Understanding***

This kind of Pain, is terrible and terrorizing at times, and you need to turn it positive as soon as you can. I believe Gods Grace is covering you during that first Shock Period. But you will reap what you sow. So sow good things. (Read James 1)

You are going to want to start looking up all the scriptures on divorce and you will start judging your partner. Do not do this, it will only cause you more grief. Judge not, or you be judged. How ever you judge, you will be judged; and with the same degree you use, it will be measured back to you. **(MT 7:1-2)**

You will experience grief, Because you must experience grief. (see 10 Stages of Grief) You need to start working on yourself. I know this is very difficult because you are constantly thinking about the situation at hand and your partner. You have to try and concentrate on Godly things. If you have the children, read them bible stories, Because this will help calm all of you. You will have thoughts that you have to do something. Do Not Do It !

You have been violated and humiliated. Guilt, fear and betrayal are most likely the dominant emotions you are experiencing right now, and play a big part in turning on our self-defense emotions of, Anger, Pride, Withdrawal, Bitterness and Blame. This is exactly what Satan wants, to get you operating in the flesh so he has control. I can guarantee you without hesitation, that Satan is standing around waiting for his chance. Do not give it to him. He will magnify and twist everything that is said or done. Later you may realize that what your partner said wasn't what your partner meant at all. But now it's to late? (PHIL 4:8)

### ***DO NOT PLUG YOURSELF INTO THE TV.***

You will be like a VCR and record everything you see and hear. Your heart and emotions are wide open to suggestion. You can imagine some pretty wild things in this state and block the leading of the Holy Spirit. Watching Christian programming is great! I heard of a guy who sat in front of TBN for four solid days. He said it saved his life and marriage. But you do not have to do anything that drastic, but if you need to, go for it.

### ***BE CAREFUL OF THE MUSIC YOU LISTEN TO.***

Listen to uplifting music. Remember, you are wide open to suggestion. Just one, he or she done me wrong song can start the hate and your destruction.

### ***WATCH WHAT YOU SAY. (to anyone)***

You can flat out talk yourself into something. You can have yourself believing things about your partner that are not true. Depending on who you talk to, you might have help in believing things that are not true. Not to mention it nearly always gets back to the other person. If you have a true friend who knows how to listen, great ! But they should never encourage the negative. [see friends & family]

### ***DO NOT ASSUME ANYTHING !!!!!***

Give it to God and leave it in his hands. This will be a tough thing to do. You will be trying to justify or figure out why, this is happening, but use this time to discipline yourself. Call upon Jesus to help you. He is always there. You might feel like you are going to die, but you will not. It has been proven that separation and divorce are the most painful experiences

known. You are probably frightened beyond anything you have ever experienced, but you will make it. The pain will go away and things will get better.

You must try to endure your hardship with thanksgiving. At first this thanksgiving comes as a sacrifice, you usually force it out at first. With hardships come great blessings and a renewing of our strength and dedication to our Lord. Read (HEB:12)

Count this as the greatest time of your life instead of the worse time of your life. By doing this you drive Satan nuts and people will see. It will not be long before they see our Jesus in you and want him. Read->JMS 5:11 (NOW)

How Can You Let Others See Jesus In You, During This Time?

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### ***Friends & Family***

Most of the time, Our friends & family can be our worse enemies at this point. They will tell you what they think you want to hear. Sometimes they take advantage of your weakened condition to vent off things. Do not allow anyone to speak evil of your partner, even if it is true. They really think they are helping you, but they are only cultivating selfishness, unforgiveness and justification. If the children hear this, it can cause lifetime damage.

Then there are those that will try to run down everything they feel you have done wrong. You know what you did, if anything, you need encouragement not chastisement. Remember, they mean well, at least most of them do. Surround yourself with positive people. Join a Support Group, and do not go looking for a meat market, because you will regret it for the rest of your life.

Unforgiveness stops God from operating in your situation. You are hurting and you are going to hurt. Hurting is OK, bitterness, selfishness, blame and unforgiveness is not. In the hurt you will become stronger than you ever thought possible. But the wrong attitude will weaken and destroy you.

### ***Check your Motives***

Check your motives before you do anything. If they are selfish, check them again. Some motives have to be for self, but keep them in place.

Wrong Motives: \_\_\_\_\_ Right Motives: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
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### **WOLVES**

Beware of wolves, these are both male and female and are looking to catch you on the rebound. You are vulnerable right now, no matter what your head is telling you or how together you might think you are, you are vulnerable. Satan is going to bring someone or even turn your head towards someone.

Do not seek opposite sex comfort. You will be forever regretting it if things get out of hand. It will cause a conflict in you that is extremely difficult to overcome. It will cause mental pictures to form that you do not want. If your partner does consider reconciliation and finds out about this other person, you can kiss them good-bye.

I heard of partners leaving just to see if the other partner would latch on to someone else. There is absolutely no way of determining this. Do not assume, but let Jesus rule your heart and emotions during this time of grief. Do not allow your emotions to control you, and do not let anyone take control of your decisions. (lawyer)

God knows, and I know how badly you hurt right now. I have felt those horrible pains in my gut and was tormented by those very same emotions. I found peace in reading my bible, out loud. Read Psalms like a letter, written, to you. God, in His Love & Grace, will open the scriptures; you will see the Word like you have never seen it before. I know it's very hard. The loneliness and betrayal are terrible, but you have to focus. Get alone with God and cry. Just Cry and cry and cry. There is no better cleansing for the soul.

DO NOT go to the world for your comfort. They will turn your pain against you. Do not forget the wolves. They want what is Gods. They want to devour and utterly destroy everything belonging to God. Do not be deceived with there kind words and sympathy. They are stroking you until they have a clean clear shot at your heart. Do not be deceived.

You have already noticed that the people have scattered. Hold to your stand and do not give into the loneliness that is crying out to the world. No body really knows why people do this, but it happens 90% of the time. Usually it is because they just do not know what to say, and feel as though you are expecting them to say something that is going to make a difference. But you already know there isn't anything they can say that is going to make you feel better. In this behavior, they are only revealing their true walk with God.  
(James 1)

Read ISAIAH 54:4 (NOW)

# Ten Stages Of Grief Relationships

The work of grief must be pursued within the heart and can not be hurried. It takes a great deal of time, usually a year or more. Here is where a great many get caught on the rebound. They look for someone or something to silence that pain. This always ends up in disaster. Jumping into another relationship only hides the grief for a little while, but it will surface and need to be dealt with, sooner or later. Second marriages are destroyed by this process. One or both parties have not allowed the grieving process to run its course.

This may be the worse pain you have ever had to endure. The death of a relationship [divorce ] has been found to be the most stressful and painful experience known. It is not actual death, where one can finalize the grieving process and they never see the person again. The death of a relationship is as painful as loosing a loved one except they are still around as a reminder, and fuel for negative emotions like bitterness, unforgiveness, fear, hate and so on. Naturally, this knowledge will not lesson the pain, or minimize your grief. What it does do is assist you in giving yourself up to it. Giving you courage in knowing it will one day be over with. Giving yourself up to it, is the only way to start the healing and obtaining a complete healing, and this is where Jesus comes in.

In Gods grace and love he will walk us through this extremely painful and trying ordeal. He will give you a peace that goes beyond anything you can imagine. Going through this process is a given, and you must go through it in order to save your sanity. By going through this natural process you will grow and come out of it stronger and more alive than ever. You will also be a new person, whether positive or negative is up to you.

## **I. Shock**

Some never go through a prolonged stage of shock and are able to express their



emotions immediately. Others will say, " I feel numb " and no real emotions or tears come. This could be a type of denial and is very destructive. But eventually it will be expressed in one way or another. Sometimes positive and sometimes negative. Children will bury there shock, because they do not want to believe the two people they love and trust the most, hate one another. Children express this buried shock in the form of bedwetting, silence, lack of appetite, withdrawal, and sleeplessness.

## **II. Emotional Release**

This is where a person begins to feel and hurt. Many people start here. It is good to cry in grief, it is possibly the greatest release of pain, because tears wash the heart. If someone, especially Children, do not express these emotions, it will show in there behavior or in some other way. Either physically or emotionally it is going to show, unfortunately many partners blame this emotional pain of the children on the other partner, which only builds more unhealthy feelings in the children. The children know better and this action will back fire one day.

Some people need to be induced to cry or express themselves. This is particularly true with men and male children. If this is not expressed in a controlled way, later on in life it might be expressed in an uncontrolled way. Causing everyone around them to experience their grief. Then they will blame someone for the pain and it is usually the parent they are with. Because this parent is the one that would not allow them to grieve. Here we can see how years later another relationship is destroyed.

In our culture men are not allowed to cry. But it should be encouraged, because harboring unforgiveness magnifies everything and makes recovery a very long process. It numbs the guilt and makes sinning easier each time. It turns you into a bitter person unable to maintain other relationships.

## **III. Preoccupation with Ex-Partner**

One might try to think of other things, but they will find themselves thinking about him/her and unable to shift their thoughts. This could be very negative and cause deep wounds that take forever to heal and future relationships are destroyed because of it. Forgiveness is the key, some people feel married for long periods of time after the divorce, which is normal, because they have bonded, even if one tries to say the bond is broken. It is never really broken, what you do with those feelings will determine the kind of person you become. It will determine the kind of person your children will become. Some will say " I do not love " or " I can not love " , when in reality it is selfish unforgiveness.

## **IV. Symptoms of Some Physical and Emotional Distress**

These symptoms or distresses may come in many forms and in waves, lasting from 20 min. to a full hour.

The most common Physical distresses are:

- Sleeplessness
- Tightness in the throat.
- Choking, with shortness of breath.
- A need for sighing.
- Empty hollow feeling in stomach.
- Lack of muscular power. [bed wetting]
- Digestive symptoms
- Lack of appetite
- Uncontrolled eating.
- Hyperactive

**Note:** Watch these symptoms in children and see if they last longer than a few hours.

Associated with the physical distress may be certain emotional alternatives, the most common are;

Slight sense of unreality.  
Feelings of emotional distance from people. (no one cares)  
Sometimes people will feel shadowy or very small.

There are feelings of:  
Panic  
Self Destruction  
Desire to run away

These feelings may cause most people to think they are losing their sanity or approaching insanity, but these feelings are all normal. It is how you deal with them that counts. Children will have these same feelings, watch them. Especially teens. These days it is not uncommon for children to attempt suicide. Be very careful you are not contributing to their justification for such a thing.

#### **V. Hostile Reactions**

These feelings are surprising and inexplicable to the person having them, which often makes them feel like they are going insane. The anger may be directed at the other partner, the other partner's lover, the children, family and even God, but this is very normal. The partners should understand that the other partner is going to go through this as well. The children will go through this also and must express it. If they are afraid of expressing anger, even toward the partner they are with, then they will "lock up" in this area and it will come out later in other areas of life. Maybe not until their own marriage fails. Is this what you want for your children ?

#### **VI. Guilt**

There is always some sense of guilt in this process. In order to relieve it the partner will often convert it to blame. There are always feelings of, "could I have done something different," or, "it is all their [the other persons] fault." It is important to remember that two people can not live together without some hurt being done. During this process these things will be magnified. But feeling guilty is normal during this process. Converting it to "Blame" only spells disaster and there will be no healing, only blame and unforgiveness

#### **VII. Depression**

Many feel total despair, unbearable loneliness, hopelessness, nothing seems worthwhile and detached. These feelings are far more intense with those living alone or have very little family support. Getting into a support system is extremely important. (support groups, church, clubs ect...) This type of depression is actually a healing process, which seems awful, but it is doing a wondrous work within you.

## **VIII. Withdrawal**

Some withdraw from social activities, a social life, relationships and their daily routines are severely disrupted, which is normal. Some people need to be encouraged to overcome this, because they will create a solitude fortress to hide in. Once the walls are up it becomes extremely hard to penetrate.

## **IX. The Light at the End of the Tunnel**

Time and the Holy Spirit will finally produce a better situation. All of a sudden there is light and the dark cloud of gloom dissipates. Life starts coming back into focus and the person begins to move forward. This will only happen if you have been honest with yourself and have not taken a big mental, emotional or spiritual step backwards.

## **X. Re-adjustment times.**

There will be moments and seasons where at some point you will feel a touch of the grief again. This is very normal and will get less and less as time goes on. To move through these ten stages of Grief it is very necessary to express your feelings.

Before you can get to the last two stages you have to experience the first eight. But people try to avoid the extreme pain of the grieving process and cause permanent deep wounds that never heal. They come out in the form of bitterness, unforgiveness and hate for the ex-partner. These very same effects are evident in child. The bitterness, unforgiveness and hate becomes a part of their character. This is very unfortunate. They learn to hate and run instead of love and forgive. After experiencing this process you will emerge a better person. You will grow in leaps and bounds if you "allow the process" to complete its work in you and the children.

Jesus is going to be there with you, if you allow him to.  
His love and grace will cover you like a warm blanket.

# About Divorce

*God Hates Divorce*

Malachi 2:16

"For the LORD God of Israel says  
That He hates divorce,  
For it covers one's garment with violence,"  
Says the LORD of hosts.  
"Therefore take heed to your spirit,  
That you do not deal treacherously."

Translated it reads:

"For the LORD God of Israel says  
That He [ is an enemy or foe to] divorce [or separation],  
For it covers one's [partner] with  
[bad, evil, depraved thoughts or actions],"  
Says the LORD of hosts.  
"Therefore [preserve, hedge about and regard] your spirit,  
That you do not deal [ faithlessly, covertly, deceitfully ]."

"For the LORD God of Israel says That He hates divorce [or separation], ...."

Now this is a very powerful statement. It is pretty clear what God thinks of divorce. It also checks you as to where you are with God. We are to love and serve God with all our heart, with all our soul, with all our mind, and with all our strength.' This is the first commandment. (MK 12:30) Divorce is the ultimate act of rebellion towards Gods statutes, and His will, in a persons life. Divorce is a public admission that you do not believe Gods Word is true. Rebellion is considered and translated as "witchcraft".

Divorce is Satans highest institution as marriage and family is regarded as Gods highest institution. When you are tempted by the thought of divorce or separation you need to cast it down. (2Cor.10:5)

Americans have become soft, and are not willing to stick to anything. They take the direction of least resistance. They want the quick fix easy way out. If it is a mental, emotional or spiritual struggle they run and quote Satans lie, "If it feels good do it, if not, don't do it". Or a favorite cop out used by most, " I can do what I want, God will forgive me ". The church has sugar coated God and has tried to make him a sugar daddy. Marriage and having a family is a daily struggle. It is a battle at times that turns into a flat out war with the devil in some cases.

But Satan has us fighting one another.(Husband, wife, children, in-laws) When it is Satan, the liar, that we should be fighting. (EPH 6:12)

#### **Example:**

I grew up hard. My father was a criminal and spent most of the years of my childhood in prison, loaded on drugs or drinking. He eventually died an alcoholic/drug addict.

But my mother for nearly 40 years refused to divorce him. By making her stand she preserved her children's heritage. She spent countless hours in prayer for her children and made sure they were in church every time those doors were open. Her reward in heaven will be one of great honor. She was not happy the entire time. She suffered like no woman should ever have to. Her pains of loneliness, rejection and betrayal were beyond description. She was told she was crazy for not divorcing him and finding peace with another man. But she held true to the Word of God. She sacrificed her life to preserve the integrity of Gods Word. Her children will never forget and neither will anyone else. She will be seated with the great women of the bible one day, Ester, Ruth, Mary the mother of Jesus.

Though her rewards here on earth were few her rewards in heaven are uncountable. I love my mother for what she did for me, she secured a place for me and my five brothers and sisters, and God will honor each sacrifice she has made. In my mind there is no greater woman. Yes, she suffered and people thought she was crazy. But she endured to the end. Mom even loved and cared for dad when he was sick, she comforted him even after he had committing adultery. My mother prayed for my father everyday and set the example for a generations to follow.

There are so many false teachings and doctrines out there it has completely confused this issue. I have meet pastors that were not clear on the subject. They have been lured by the constant changing world standards regarding divorce.

There are so many divorced & remarried couples in the church today that most leaders avoid this subject. This is what "Divorce Warriors" is all about. We are here to fight for Gods most valued institution, **"The Family"**.

We lift up and support those making the ultimate sacrifices and educate those thinking about divorce. We are here to stand in the gap and agree with anyone wanting to hold the family together. We aggressively seek the reconciliation of families. We do not believe in finding the "Exception" rules. Because when you look at the Character of God and what Jesus did on the cross, there can not be a valid reason for destroying a family.

God has given us everything we need to fight and restore families. It is all found in His Word (Jesus).

# About Remarriage

MT 19:6

## **Consequences for Remarriage:**

**I use the word Consequence, because God never intended for anyone to marry more than once, unless there was a death. The remarriage is usually based upon filling a spot in ones life that the person refused to give to God. (Loneliness, sex, security, trust, finances, status, material possessions)**

The remarriage comes with high expectations by both parties that can never be lived up to. And once they have divorced, it becomes the answer to their problems. Thus, both live in constant fear of the other leaving. After all, they did it before. Statistics say they will do it again.

## **Baggage**

When you remarry you will bring excess baggage from one marriage to the next. There are not just two people involved. There are three to four and maybe even more. You are re-marrying their ex-partners and relationships, and your ex-partners and relationships are there also. Yes there is going to be baggage. It is rare for a couple to successfully work through this baggage and obtain true peace in there new relationship. This is a consequence for remarriage. It makes the new relationship three, four and maybe six times as hard as the first. Because now you are dealing with Three to Four people rather than Two. You may also be facing step children that want their parents back together, and they can make life very hard on you. Statistics say that failed second marriages are due to the step child, a great deal of the time.

There are things that happened in the previous relationships that were never dealt with and will surface in the new relationship. Things that you never knew were there. But then after entering into a marriage your new partner (accidentally) hits these trigger spots and bingo, you have feelings that go with them. You could have things like miss-trust, unfaithfulness, fear, terror and a multitude of things, triggered, and aimed toward your innocent new partner, which in turn triggers there old feelings and memories.

This sometimes happens with a virgin couple when there has been resentment toward a parent. "**Just Like Dad**" and "**Just Like Mom**" This can also happen if there was any sexual abuse in the history of either partner. They will be feelings triggered that they will not even know where they came from, of which anger is the most common, then depression. The partner will resent the new partner on the grounds that the old partner did it or said it, thus you are dealing with more than one person. which is, super complicated if children are involved. The troubles are endless; if remarriage is what you desire then get ready for three times the trouble you had in the first marriage. If you have rejected the discipline of your first marriage, God will raise up another lesson, involving more people and bigger problems.

## **Guidelines For Remarriage**

If you want to remarry, even your former spouse, follow the guidelines below.

1. Sit down and outline your life. Write a life story about yourself.
2. See a qualified counselor or minister and ask them if they feel you are ready.
3. If you can not be honest then you are not anywhere close to being ready to remarry. Any attempt will be met with disaster. Even with your former partner.
  - a. You do not show this history to anyone but God or your counselor

List fears, hurts, abuse, feelings, failures, achievements and put them on a time line.

By doing this you are going to find things you have not dealt with in your past. You may be amazed at what you find. This is not something that can be done in an hour. Write what you remember and go back to it everyday for ten consecutive days and go over it. You must be honest or you are setting yourself up for a big fall.

One woman that did this realized it wasn't her husband she was angry with. She had harbored deep unforgiveness toward her father. She had been taking this out on her husband, not at first, but after her husband reached an age close to her fathers at the time of the memory.

Be careful not to cop a victims attitude. This is very destructive. You may be living in a victims mentality. Doing this should expose these things. Unforgiveness always results in selfishness which is the number one root cause for divorce. Unforgiveness also comes with a consequence.

"Then his master, after he had called him, said to him, 'You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you begged me. 'Should you not also have had compassion on your fellow servant, just as I had pity on you?' "And his master was angry, and delivered him to the torturers until he should pay all that was due to him.

"So My heavenly Father also will do to you if each of you, from his heart, does not forgive his brother his trespasses."

*(Matthew 18:33-35)*

If you think this will not happen, you have another thing coming.  
Not to mention the emotional heartache.

**If you must remarry, to keep from doing immoral things or to keep from walking away from God to satisfy your burning, then consider the consequences and be very sure you can not return to your mate. Because the remarriage will be more difficult than you think. (COR 7:10-11)**

If there be anyway possible, stay with your partner, or give it some time and STAND for your marriage . Nothing is impossible for God, NOTHING. But make it clear to yourself you are giving it time. Dig your heals in and fight for you partner, spiritually. (see knowing your enemy)

### ***Greener Pastures " The Knight in Shining Armor "***

Unfortunately many are thinking about remarriage before they ever leave or consider divorce. I call this the " The knight in shining armor syndrome".

" The knight in shining armor syndrome," is when a partner starts to imagine or fantasize about someone else as a partner. This is usually sexual in nature, but not always. Sometimes it isn't a real person they are fantasizing about, but a character in a novel or a actor on TV.

This is called a mental affair. Jesus warned against it. "But I say to you that whoever looks at a woman to lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart." (MT 5:28 ) This kind of an affair is worse that the act. You can not just run away from it. Expectations can form that your mate can not fulfill. The emotions are split and the commitment becomes as real as TV.

Example: (names are changed)

Tom was already considering remarriage before he had even considered leaving his wife, which left a door wide open to the enemy. Satan only had to maneuver a woman into Toms life in order to give him a nudge. Satan sent someone else to treat him nice and respectful.

Now the enemy pushes his partners buttons a few times to get her going and it isn't long before Tom is thinking about leaving this woman he loves, but then he must convince himself that he does not love her. He might succeed for a few months, but it never lasts, and the guilt and pride can keep him from reversing his decision.

We see here, how just the thought turned into the destruction of a marriage. How did it happen? Was Tom's wife at fault for being insensitive and liberated? Was it Tom's fault for entertaining these thoughts? Actually it was witchcraft. Oh my you say! How on earth did you get witchcraft out of that? Witchcraft is rebellion against Gods Word. Both Tom and his wife were rebelling to each others authority by being selfish, by being selfish they rebelled against God.

Example: (names are changed)

Teri insisted she was not leaving her husband for another man. But I have come to find out that women are leaving their husbands for a man that does not exist anywhere but only in there , televisions, romance novels, the gossip parlor and in their imaginations.

### ***I am already Divorced & Remarried.***

There is no condemnation in Christ Jesus.

So you remarried. I hope this material helps to strengthen your marriage. Now is a good time to use what you have learned to help others. Turn it into a positive ministry.

### **IMPORTANT:**

1. Do Not justify your "divorce and remarriage."  
Do not become a stumbling block to others.  
Do not make it seem like it is the thing to do.
2. Do Not blame your ex-partner.  
The unforgiveness will poison this marriage and you could cause you partner to sin.
3. Do Not even speak negative about your ex-partner.  
This is part of the renewing of your mind process.

If you left your previous partner  
to get an other partner, you have  
a big problem, not an  
unforgivable one, but one where you will  
reap what you sow!

What Can Happen If

You Actuate The Divorce

## **THE CONSEQUENCES**

If you are a Christian and do not believe their will be severe consequences for divorcing your partner, un-rightfully, then you need to do a little more research into the issue.

Our responsibility to forgive out weighs your rights to divorce.

### **Among the things people experienced were:**

**Finances fell to pieces.**

- a. Nothing they tried worked and most lost their jobs.

**Friends left them.**

- a. Suddenly they lost favor with everyone. They were friendless and alone.
- b. If there had been another, they left.

**Sleepless nights !**

- a. Tossing and turning in guilt or unforgiveness. Daydreaming of revenge.

**It wasn't like they thought it was going to be.**

- a. It was nothing like they had fantasized it would be. They compared their new friend to their partner. They realized their fantasies were satanic.

**Bitterness and pride took over there thought lives.**

- a. Bitterness nearly ate them alive. But pride kept them from reconciling.

**Some started drinking & trying to cover guilt.**

- a. Nearly all admitted to going to a bar at least once to try and cover the pain, guilt and loneliness for what they had done. Christians wouldn't have a lot to do with them. This is very unfortunate. But God will isolate a person sometimes and let loneliness it self bring them to repentance.

**Loss of health.**

- a. All said there health plummeted. Old injuries got worse and back problems developed.

**Loss of looks.**

- a. They lost their looks, if they had any. But they admit to looking older.

**Loss of trust by women & men.**

- a. Christians didn't trust them. So dating was short.

**Loss of children.**

- a. All said they missed their children and this caused extreme heartache.
- b. Some completely lost the respect of their children. All had to re-earn it.

**Depression**

- a. A few experienced depression but the ones that did said it was an instrument to get them back to God.

**A few questions asked people who had either returned to there partners or had returned to fellowship with God.**

**What made you decide to leave your partner ?**

Dreams of greener pastures, unable to accept responsibility, they would be better off without me. First marriage hurts not healed. The number one reason **"Money"**. Most figured they would have more if they started over.

**What made you think it was Gods will to leave your partner ?**

Amazingly, few even thought about that. They were acting out a fantasy or looking for greener pastures. Otherwise running from responsibility. Or to overcome by lust to think. They had lusted after someone else or the things of the world.

**Did you realize that by divorcing your partner it was the ultimate act of rebellion towards God.**

**(NO)** None had realized this at the time. But admitted it was true. They realized they were being selfish with their lives and their lives didn't even belong to them.

**Did you realize that by filing for a divorce it was a public admission that Gods word was not true? Thus making this the ultimate form of blaspheming Gods Word ?**

**(NO)** None had realized this at the time. But realized it later.

The classic example was a woman that tried to win her sister to the Lord and the Sister said that she didn't want a God that allowed a woman to abandon her values for selfish reasons. She could better on her own.



## **Why didn't you realize so many important things when you were making such an important decision?**

**Fear**

**Anger**

**Selfishness**

**Lust that was out of control**

**Out of fellowship with God**

**A determination to not forgive.**

**Guilt**

**Pride**

### **Note:**

They, the violators, all admitted to listening to strange and selfish reasoning. They also said that the TV, romance novels and third party people had a huge impact on how they viewed their relationships. And all brought up the submission issue. But few had known it's true meaning when they left.

### **Biblical Statements & Resources**

- 1. They will cause their partner to commit adultery. ( Matthew 5:32)**
- 2. They fail to be a person of their word.(Matt.12:37 )**
- 3. They destroy the marriage testimony. ( Eph. 5:22-32 )**
- 4. They dishonor their parents. (Matt. 15:4)**
- 5. They disqualify themselves from church leadership.(1 Timothy 3:5 )**
- 6. They plant seeds of bitterness.**
- 7. They plant seeds of unforgiveness. (Matt 18:34)**
- 8. They deny their children training.(PROV 22:6)**
- 9. They set themselves up for all sorts of temptations.(1Cor.7:2)**
- 10. They remove Gods grace from their life. READ --> (Malichi 2)**

# THE LOVING LEADER

1COR 13:13

While researching this I was horrified at how I was not a "Loving Leader". In fact I leaned harder toward the "Domineering Leader". I was absolutely shocked at what I had become without realizing it. Love was not the dominant trait in my life, fear was. How did this happen? Has it happened to you?

Without love as the dominant character trait within us we run all sorts of risks. Satan can easily deceive us and open doors in our lives without us even realizing it. Without love, we can not operate in the spirit like we should. Without love, effective faith is nearly impossible. Without love, our relationship with our family hinges on emotional feelings. Not the Love of God.

Satan loves to play with feelings and imaginations. He has attacked the home and is being very successful with wooing our women. He is laying waste to our women. All he has to do is associate something with a feeling. If we as men are not grounded in love Satan can and will snatch our families away from us.

A loving leader is not a wee-nee. He is a man of faith and power. He stands at his door with his sword drawn, keeping watch over his family. He knows how to enter a realm of battle

that only the strong can survive in, because he knows who he is in Christ (the anointing) and knows that nothing can harm him or his family. He is willing to sacrifice himself for them. He bears their pain and sorrows. He cries with them and shares their tears. He operates in strict discipline of himself, and with compassion toward his wife, children and anyone he comes in contact with. His passion is the Word of God and without prayer he couldn't breathe. He puts on his armor every morning and readies himself for battle. (EPH 6:11)

He watches and is prepared at all times. How can a mortal man be like this? He can't, without Jesus as his Lord, God's Grace and Love. (MT 22:37-39)

He is committed to love. He knows his responsibilities when it comes to love. He gives and never expects to receive. His joy is serving his family. His pleasures come from seeing the seeds, he plants, grow within his wife and children. (EPH 5:28-37)

A loving leader is a warrior. Filled with passion and compassion. He is the King, Priest, Prophet of his home, responsible for serving, ministering and being the voice of God in his home.

In this chapter we will learn how to become a Loving Warrior Leader and not a domineering leader as the world does. This domineering, controlling trait has caused too many divorces, *And destroyed many Families*. The domineering leader is a selfish leader who thinks only of himself and his own interests.

### **What is Love ?**

1COR 13:3-8

Without the actions of love you have nothing.

Love suffers long

Is kind

Rejoices in the truth

Bears all things

Believes all things

Hopes all things

Endures all things

Love never fails (*never gives up*)

You have read and heard these scriptures preached a thousand times. Yet if you were like me you didn't catch on to what it is saying. Take a good look at the above and you will see that not one of them is a feeling. They all require a decision and a commitment. The commitment you made when you made that covenant between You, God and your Wife. This was a covenant vow before God and He does not take kindly to those who break covenants with Him. (Malachi 2) When God says "He loves you" he is saying "I will to love you, or I have chosen to love you, I am committed to showing you my love". His covenant of love for us is found in Jesus. Jesus is Love, in its purest form. He proved this by going to the cross and suffering, sacrificing and saving us. Yet we as *Leaders* find it difficult to do the house work once in a while. Jesus is on his knees everyday as our advocate before the Father. We should be on our knees everyday as advocate for our families and especially our wives.

### **Love is Not:**

Love is not, in the remotest sense of the word, a feeling. You get a good feeling when you put love into action. But love is not the feeling or the emotion. The feelings and emotions come and go; God's word is here to stay. It takes a commitment to stand in your covenant with your partner. If you can not stand in your marriage when things get tough, you will never stand for God when things get tough. One day someone might hold a gun to your child's head and

say, " deny your Christianity or your child dies ". Could you maintain your relationship with God if you were watching your child starve to death. It just might come to that one day.

When you start putting things before Jesus, the Word and Love. You end up with something creepy. It summons every devil in hell. It smells like, tastes like, looks like and feels like Hell. It creeps into your home and into your loved ones. It is a form of knowledge and religion but Jesus is not a part of it. When it enters your home it brings friends; like Humanism--Materialism--New Age--Feminism

It has no mercy and is very patient. It may take days or years but it's ultimate goal is to take complete control. So how do you check to see if it has made it's way into your home.

God gave it to us right here in 1Cor. 13.

**Love Does Not:**

- \_\_\_\_\_ envy
- \_\_\_\_\_ parade itself.
- \_\_\_\_\_ is not puffed up.
- \_\_\_\_\_ behave rudely.
- \_\_\_\_\_ seek its own.
- \_\_\_\_\_ provoke .
- \_\_\_\_\_ think no evil;
- \_\_\_\_\_ rejoice in iniquity.

Do you see any of this in your home? It is the fruit of the thing that has entered. Through a door left open. It creeps around and slowly slips into the hearts of every one in the home. Its evil is not even noticed until there is a death. Its darkness represents the heart of Satan, which grows and produces offspring. It strikes terror in the heart and causes sleepless nights. It divides and crushes the strongest foundations.

Its offspring will have names like , "But I have the right too.....", " I ", "Me" and "You", " Her ", " Him", " Them ". And there are many variations it might use in your home. The most destructive are the silent ones.

What is its name ? Selfish, selfishness, self seeking, egotism, vanity, vainglory

There is no unity in selfishness. It is the destroyer of families. It is all the above, read them again and add "Selfishness is " to each one of them. The cults teach Selfishness.

Humanism--Materialism--New Age--Feminism

They are teaching that you are a god. They teach and give birth to these things in our schools, on television and in some of our churches.

"It smells like, tastes like, looks like, sounds like and feels like Hell. It represents the very heart of Satan, and creeps into your home and into your loved ones. It is a form of knowledge and religion but Jesus is not a part of it."

**Now What Do You Do ?**

I can not express how very important it is right now to *change the way you talk*.(MT 15:11) I found that one of the best ways was to turn away from the Television and to the Psalms. Television introduces a vocabulary into the people who watch it. Have you ever noticed that when you hang around someone, with an accent, how you start talking like or using phrases you never did before.

Where did your vocabulary come from?

Your attitude and what you say or how you say it will determine the mood in your home. (MT 15:18) Things are going to make there way in, but they hold no power until you speak them. Are you speaking selfishness? Are any of its fruits in your home? By speaking selfishness you are planting seeds of every sort into your family and loved ones. You may not even notice

it. But when your family walks out that door you will remember every: I, me, you, they, those men, those women, that man, that woman ect....

### ***How do we love our Families?***

Love is an action Word, so to love is to do something. So what have you done, today, to love your partner?

List Six Things You did to Love Your Partner Today. (at least one)

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.

Did you get up this morning and pray for them?

Husband did you use that leadership anointing God gave you to lay hands on your wife and bless her? You have that anointing you know. You have that authority to Bless or Destroy. It comes from your mouth through the laying on of hands.

Wife did you use that calm gentle voice to set the atmosphere in your home?

To destroy comes from your mouth without laying on of hands.

Blessing your family in this manner is found throughout the bible. ....and I have blessed him-and indeed he shall be blessed."(GEN. 27:33)

You will find your attitude toward your partner will change quickly when you do this. It is amazing the effect it will have on them, though you may not see it right away. At first your partner is going to wonder what you are doing and what you are up to. But they will look for it every morning.

Wife, you set the atmosphere in your home. What kind of atmosphere did you create for your family today.

### **Are you taking your partner and/or relationship with them for granted?**

You better check yourself out, real good. Because if you are, in the slightest, they know it and you have planted a seed of rebellion in them. You may be seeing it in it's first stages, it is called resentment. Never ever take your wife for granted. She is a very special part of you. Spiritually she is like radar. God has given you an early warning system. If there is something wrong she will know it. But she must be comfortable in saying so. Never take the things she does or sacrifices for granted. Because you will see how important she was to your life when she is gone. If you abuse this love she extends to you, you will loose her all together. It Is happening 20 times a day, to leaders and clergy. Do not think it couldn't happen to you.

Show some appreciation, everyday. Even if it is only a kiss and a thank you. Then once in a while kick her out of the kitchen and send her to the movies. Take her out on a date where you open every door and order her meal. Dress up for her.

In my research I asked a question on a poll I did on the internet. I received 300 responses. I asked, " If there was something your husband could do, physically, to make a big difference in your marriage, not including sex, what would that one thing be?"

240 out of 300 said, " Turn off the Television and come to bed with me." Boys I have been guilty of this myself. But until recently I never understood what the big deal was. The poll just confirmed it. This is something very important to the women. We need to do something about it.

Satan uses that Television in many ways to distract us from our responsibilities and program us to worldly standards. A good part of those women responding were not even saved. So this is something important to all women," VERY " important. There were 170

responses that said that even if their husbands just laid there until they fell asleep that would be nice, My wife said the same thing, and It wasn't that long and I was sleeping alone.

**A woman's security is knowing  
her husband is Godly.**

How does she know you are Godly? Are you getting up and getting your family to church? How does she see you?

Does she see you reading the paper,  
or Gods word?

Does she see you worry?  
or praying and trusting God?

Dose she see you at all,  
are you putting your friends before family?  
Does she see you buying sports equipment,  
or tithing and giving offerings.

How does your wife and children see you?

How secure is she in your opinion when you say, " I believe God is saying.....".

Honesty plays a big part in this one. DO NOT ever try to use God to manipulate your partner, because YOU will pay for it dearly. Not just from her, but from God. If you do not know, then say so. **Do not make something up** and try to look spiritual.

There are so many areas and so many different things you could do. But if you start here the rest will come.

***Buckets of Love  
Love In The Relationship***

Love in a relationship, such as marriage, comes in two levels. There is the Covenant love and the Romantic love.

*Covenant Love:*

The Covenant Love is the commitment level you established when you stood before God and made those vows to your partner and God. The commitment is based on a responsible decision and commitment to endure all things until death do you part.

*Romantic Love:*

The Romantic Love is the bonding and emotional ties established during and after courtship, the feelings. I have found it a lot easier to understand this by thinking of the heart as a bucket, with little holes in it.

Love is like a fine oil being deposited by either the man or the woman. During courtship both the man and the woman are producing this oil by the gallons and depositing it in the other persons bucket. This is a time when so much love is produced and given that both buckets are filled to overflowing. The buckets now contain enough love, received from the other person, to last through the honeymoon season.

The buckets start running empty as the actions of love, like; the roses, the little love notes, special meals, back rubs and so on, have become less frequent. The buckets are not filled as regular anymore and are not filled all the way. At times the bottom of the buckets are hardly covered.

There is one other problem here I have not mentioned. The mans bucket is slightly larger than the woman's and can go longer without being replenished. So when she is in need of love,

he is wondering why, because he feels just fine. She sees the relationship in trouble and he sees nothing wrong.

The romantic side of the relationship is 85% sexual with a man. So when the couple come together sexually his bucket is getting oil. But the woman's romantic side is only 25% sexual, so her bucket isn't getting replenished like his is.

Now the woman's bucket is not only slightly smaller but it has a few more holes in it. Unlike the man who tends to slowly let his love run out over the entire home, pretty evenly. The woman needs that extra flow for the children, the pets, the in-laws, herself and her home. A woman's love is seen in her home and her relationships; that are attached to the home.

In the beginning all her oil, love, was channeled toward her man. But as the home grew the demands on her love became greater. So now that little bit that just covers the bottom is no longer enough. If her man, her source, is not producing the needed amount of oil to handle the increased demand, her love runs dry.

She will start demanding these love actions in order to replenish those needed feelings, her driving force. If her man does not respond, she begins looking for another place to replenish her bucket. This is a natural drive she will have. It is her covenant love that keeps her from latching on to another man, right away. But the covenant love does not have the same sustaining power it does for her logic feed man. She is a creature of feelings and needs those feeling replenished, everyday. If they are not sustained or replenished she will then try to replenish her bucket with something else, that will produce feelings. She will sometimes find these feelings in romance novels, fantasy or daytime television.

The problem with this is, the stimulate she is now using to sustain her bucket is like water. It begins to rust the holes shut, and now she needs something a little more caustic to free her feelings. She has got to keep those feelings flowing. The caustic things that re-open her feelings can be in the form of pornography, a mental affair or anything that will generate strong feelings. When these generic stimulants are no longer enough she tends to start leaning toward any feeling produced. This is that inexplicable anger or fear that engulfs her and makes her feel as though she is losing her mind.

If caught in time, the man can start adding the oil again; but he needs to be patient. Oil floats on water and until the water starts running out he will not start seeing the love he has poured into her.

Sometimes there is a hurt that is produced by either the man or the woman. This hurt acts like a lid on the bucket. Lets say that the one of persons in this marriage says something real bad that hurts the other. This act can put a lid on the bucket and make it impossible for the other partner to receive their love. The only thing that can remove this lid is a repentant heart and forgiveness. If he forgives and she is not really repentant, the lid will remain. If she repents and he will not forgive, the lid remains. They can both end up with lids before this is over. Then they are both sustaining their relationship with covenant love, but this is, most often, enough. Their commitment to the relationship can produce enough love to produce the forgiveness needed, on both sides, to remove those lids. Only God can repair the damage done by lack of oil in those buckets, His oil can replenish both parties and give them a brand new beginning.

Understand that this situation can go either way. I used the woman as the victim here because I am the one that is writing this book and that is the way I did it. I am by no means implying that this is how it always happens.

### ***Compassionate Listening***

Compassionate Listening is very important, because you will find it very difficult to understand the needs of your wife without this ability. Unfortunately, I learned to late; but it might not be to late for you.

Are you losing or have you lost the ability to have or show compassion? I have found it is a very necessary element when it comes to listening. When you listen with compassion you hear what the other person is saying. Us guys tend to turn off this element in times of stress or trials. We need to turn it on and leave it on. If your partner is not seeing your compassion you

run the risk, as I did, of turning off their compassion. Without the compassion in the relationship, the passion dies. When you have compassion and passion in a relationship, it can handle anything.

Jerry called me one night, all upset. The message on the voice mail said that his family was in need of counseling due to infidelity. I figured I was going to get an enraged spouse when I returned his call. But to my surprise, Jerry was not at all concerned about what his wife had done. He was more concerned about her and her feelings. He was naturally devastated at the news, but felt it was more important to see to her needs first. He just kept saying that she must be going through hell after what she had done and wanted someone that wasn't hurt to help explain to her that he forgives her and loves her. That what she did was wrong, but God will forgive her.

This man had deep compassion for and with his wife. I discovered with this situation that real compassion puts the other party, in the relationship, first. This man showed a level of love that is not often seen. He put his hurt aside when he seen her hurt. When I asked him about that, he said it never crossed his mind that he was the victim, he looked at it like she was the victim.

Jerry and his wife had already established this level of compassion in their relationship. It held their love even through something as devastating as adultery. The trust was damaged, but not the compassion. This was demonstrated when Jerry called for help, not for himself, but for his wife. Jerry knew what she needed, but knew he couldn't supply that need in the heat of the moment, not without support.

Selfishness can not live in compassion.

You generate compassion by shutting your mouth and listening. Sticking your heart out there and, yes, possibly getting hurt. You may not like what you are hearing, but compassion sets that aside and is more concerned about what the other is feeling; weather you feel they are right or wrong. Compassion desires to know and understand how they feel.

Being compassionate about someone's feelings or circumstances is not agreeing with them or going along with them; it is an effort to listen, to try and feel with and/or for them. Realizing that they are hurt or confused and even if they are wrong in what is causing those feelings, those feelings still exist.

If you can establish this way of dealing with others you will have a major jump in establishing the heart of Christ in your life. Others will be more patient and compassionate with you and the passion will return to your home.

I use my own life and feelings most of the time to help others avoid the same heartache I endured when I found myself standing lone in that doorway.

I never want anyone to experience the agony I had to endure.

With compassion absent from my life it was as if my wife was speaking a language from another country, I couldn't understand a word she said. So I never really did know her well enough to meet the needs I was responsible for, as her husband. I always tried to fix her, when all that was needed, was a compassionate listener.

### ***How do we love our Children?***

One of the most important things you can give your child **is you**. Stop what you are doing and look at them when they speak to you. Let them know that what they are saying is important. Make time for children, this is very important. I was going to get into stories and all sorts of things like that. But if you are doing the above it will have a major impact on your children. You will become the most important person in their lives.

Go in to their rooms and lay a hand on them and pray a blessing on them, every morning or evening. They will love it and look forward to it, so will you.

### ***Things you never do:***

1. Never lie to your children.  
If it is something they should not know, then say so.
2. Never discipline in anger.  
Because it isn't discipline. It is a beating, whether physical or mental.  
Then someone is going to tell them it is abuse; and now you have a whole new can of worms.
3. Never take someone else's side against them, to their face.
4. NEVER say "you are worthless" or anything like that.
5. Never talk bad about their mother to them. **EVER**  
You will reap that one big time. Not even sarcastic statements under your breath.

# Marital Commitment



By Pastor Gary P. Ewert  
& Gregory H. Ewert

Unfortunately, in these last days, hearts are hardened and God's own people tend to worship their own selfishness and except the world's standards regarding marriage and divorce. This makes a divorce within the Christian couples' life a reality. With some, it is going to happen, and there is very little that can be done, once someone has decided that this is what they want to do. Why? Because of the self-deception and the hardening of the heart.

In the marriage relationship, a lot of the church has adopted worldly standards in regards to expectations in the marriage. With these worldly standards mixed in with the Word of God it causes great confusion within the church. As any true believer knows, the worldly standards and doctrines will not mix with biblical standards and doctrines. It has to be one way or the other. Divorce Warriors works to not only educate the individual believer, it strives to educate the church.

The needs of the victim going through Separation & Divorce go way beyond those worldly needs for material possessions and worldly security.

Individuals finding themselves in the process of Separation and Divorce are finding themselves alone in a world and a Church that has adopted the worldly self-serving standards regarding Separation and Divorce. This aloneness leaves the Separated or Divorced Believer vulnerable to the sinking world standards and Satan's ultimate plan to destroy the church through the destruction of the family.

The foundation and strength of the church comes from the healthy family that worships and serves Jesus Christ. So by splitting the Family Satan is dividing the church.

You can see how Satan loves the abortion issue. He just loves to kill babies and has made it legal in most of the world. The believer would never consider abortion or condone it. So Satan created an alternative way to destroy Christian children. We call it Divorce. Divorce is family abortion and is accepted or tolerated by most of the modern day church. This is because of the acceptance of the worldly standards regarding divorce.

Now this could not just happen on its own. The prosperity message, in its perverted form, had a lot to do with this problem we have today. It is not solely responsible, but it has played a big part in the character of the modern day marriage. The love of money and materialism distracted the believer from their moral & spiritual responsibilities regarding the family. Yet at the same time a longing for these moral & spiritual values are present.

Here again we see how the Godly Principles and the Worldly Standards are trying to be mixed. We all know that it is like mixing water and oil, it can not happen. If you shake the



water and oil long enough and hard enough it will appear to mix. But set it alone for just a moment and they separate. So a constant shaking must take place, causing confusion, deception and a slipping away from Godly Morals & Principles.

Regarding Marriage & Divorce, in this day & age, the equation has been going something like this.

**<Marriage >**

**1.5 years**

Expectations + Discontent = Demands

**3 years**

Demands + Expectations = Demanding Expectations

**4.5 years**

Demanding Expectations + Discontent = Conditions

**6 years**

Conditions + Demanding Expectations = Demanding Conditions

**7.5 years**

Demanding Conditions + Discontent = Selfishness

**9 years**

Selfishness + discontent = Expectations

**<Divorce>**

*This equation is formulated accordingly to the average Christian marriage only lasting and only expected to last an average of 9 years.*

*But more and more are getting through this process faster all the time.*

Marriage and even marriage enhancement classes are full of expectations. Love and Commitment in, and to, the marriage are based upon these expectations. When these expectations are not met they become demands. The demands attach themselves to the expectations. Now when these demanding expectations are combined with the existing discontent you get conditions.

This has just made the persons Love & Commitment in the relationship conditional upon these demanding expectations.

This has just turned into demanding conditions. When you combine demanding conditions with the slightest hint of discontent you end up with Selfishness.

Now we have come full circle because there can not be any expectations without selfishness.

### **The Self Serving Attitude**

Selfishness produces the fruits of anger, fear, discontentment, unforgiveness and loneliness. Selfishness needs justification and finds it in the expectations. The predominant emotional fruits of selfishness are anger & fear.

Selfishness like Love is an action word, it can not stand alone. It always produces action. Without the actions produced by anger and fear it will die.

The two statements I hear from people, who are discontent, today are:

1. I have this inexplicable anger.
2. I have this inexplicable fear.

These two emotions tear apart families and pervert family loyalties. They also destroy any relationship including our relationship with our heavenly father. I have found that once the

expectations are modified or done away with, true love jumps right into the picture. With this comes peace and contentment.

No matter what the circumstances, without expectations, Peace and Love rules the home and relationships. Because expectations are replaced with faith.

Now lets look at the equation in this light.

Love + Faith = Hope  
Faith + Hope = Peace  
Peace + Commitment = Love  
Love + Commitment = Jesus

Once again we have come full circle. Because Jesus is love in its purest form. Love is the unconditional will to obey Gods will. This is what it means when the bible says that a husband is to love his wife as Christ loved the church.

Jesus never built the church. Jesus left that to Peter. But he gave Peter his name and the authority to do it. Jesus didn't build the church, the church is to be built on Jesus, the Rock.

Woman, what will you build with? You are the builder you know? (Prov. 31)

Man, what will your family build with, what they build with is in you, the man. You are the foundation. The foundation is built upon the Rock.

Woman, even if he is a lousy foundation you are the builder, place your un-saved foundation upon the Rock.

Man, what have you given her to build with ?

### ***Commitment***

The high cost of broken commitments, or vows, in marriages today serve to show us that God views Marriage Commitment with high regard. The Family and Marriage is Gods highest and most holy institution . In Malachi 2:13-16 God expresses His feelings regarding broken marriage vows and divorce. Jesus repeats this in Matthew 5: 31-37 in his most documented and important sermon, the sermon on the mount. Here we see his feelings regarding divorce and his feelings regarding vows or Oaths. He warns us about making oaths unto God or the Throne room. Because breaking these vows comes with high costs that will last a lifetime.

Television and romance novels make divorce romantic and exciting. But in a Christians life it is everything but.

Here are several reason why people say they divorced.

1. I didn't love them anymore.
2. We grew apart.
3. They were no longer meeting my emotional needs.
4. My partner didn't meet my sexual needs.
5. They were more interested in there hobbies or work than me.
6. We couldn't agree on anything.
7. I do not think I ever really loved them.
8. We were to young when we married.
9. I only got married to get out of the house and away from my parents.
10. Nothing is ever going to change or get better.
11. I wanted to be free.
12. I just do not want to be married

A group of Christians, divorced couples, were asked what their broken marital commitments cost them.

1. It is never over for anyone, not completely.
2. It devastates all families involved. Weather related or not.
3. It makes people wonder if being a Christian really makes any difference.

4. It creates so much pain and loss to those involved that it does everything but represent the love & glory of God.
5. The Children never get over it. Their loss and pain is a permanent fixture on their hearts & memories.
6. It breaks up families for years & generations to come. With everyone involved.
7. It causes the children to sin. They are forced to honor one and not the other. Causing them to break the one commandment that comes with a promise.

***Things God says, He hates***

You will find at least one of these in a broken relationship.

1. God hates haughty eyes. ( Proverbs 6:17)  
Looking down on your mate or thinking you are better.
2. God hates a lying tongue. (Proverbs 6:17)  
Going back on your marital vows.  
Remember: *(Love, Honor & Cherish forsaking all others till death do you part)*  
*Most forget about the Love Honor & Cherish part.*
3. God hates hands that shed innocent blood. (Proverbs 6:17)  
The people that are innocently hurt due to your decision or your imposed decision.
4. God Hates feet that run rapidly to evil. ( Proverbs 6:18)  
Selfishness, placing God and your family 2nd & 3rd to your own desires.
5. God hates a heart that devises evil plans.  
Premeditated sin against your Partner as an act of vengeance or so called justified sin.
6. God hates False witnesses that utter lies. ( Proverbs 6:19)  
Lying about or falsely accusing your partner or getting friends or relatives to lie about your sinful doings.
7. God hates one who spreads strife among brothers.  
Separation or divorce cause others to take sides.
8. God hates it when sacrifices are burned to other Gods.  
Your sacrifices ( job, time, sex, listening) are selfish and not done in love as unto God.
9. I reject your festivals, nor do I delight in your solemn assemblies.....( Amos 5:21)  
Not committing yourself to God or the needs of your family. He wants that take you into your own festivals & assemblies.
10. God hates garments covered with wrong;  
namely immorality, adultery and neglecting your partners sexual needs.
11. God loved Jacob, but hated Esau. ( Mal. 1:1-3)  
Esau did not take God seriously. He did not take Gods promises or principles seriously.

Principles & Promises :

1. Principle: Healthy Prayer Life  
The Promise: ( Matthew 7:7-12)
2. Principle: The Bible  
The Promise: ( Matthew 7:24-25)
3. Principle: Assembling together (church)  
The Promise: (Eph. 4) Unity

***Some Blessings that have  
come with Commitment.***

Mike & Mary  
(Names have been changed)

Mary started going to Bingo and started hanging out with the crowd. She had two daughters and a wonderful Husband. They were always in church and were very committed. Pretty soon Mary began going to other gambling establishments with the crowd. She started drinking and became a full blown alcoholic with a gambling problem. She also violated her vows several times.

Mike considered divorce several times but hung in there. When his first daughter got married she stopped next to him in the isle on her way out of the sanctuary. She hugged her daddy and thanked him for not divorcing mom. Several years later his second daughter hugged his neck and repeated the same.

One year later in the same sanctuary His wife, after kneeling at the alter did the same thing. She wrapped her arms around his neck and begged his forgiveness and thanked him for not leaving her or forsaking her when everyone else had. Now the Thanksgivings and Christmases with the grandchildren who's inheritance Mike preserved are making up for the bad ones of the past. God has also completely restored everything they thought they had lost.

Abraham & Sarah ( The Blessings )

- a. Great Riches
- b. A Miracle Child
- c. God's blessing on there seed

Esther to King Xerxes

- a. God saved her people
- b. He saved her life
- c. He saved her family
- d. Provided her security

Joseph to Mary

- a. Became part in raising the King of Kings.  
Your children have great destinies with God.

Jesus & the Church

- a. Grace
- b. Fulfillment
- c. Maturity
- d. Love & security

### ***Healing the Wounds***

Having the right attitude makes all the biblical difference on whether or not God can completely restore our hearts condition. Lets look at King David's attitude.

*"Search me Oh God, know my heart; try me  
Oh God and know my anxious thoughts. See  
if there be any wicked way in me and lead me  
into thy everlasting arms." (Ps. 139:23)*

King David's Heart Attitude is what made the difference. It opened the gates for God to come in and bring healing and total restoration of his being.

#### ***First:***

Lets look at seven carnal characteristics of the heart that prevents healing and provokes destruction.

### **1. A Heart that focuses on the offense;**

" where your heart is, there is where you will be also" (Prov. 23:7)

If your heart is always on the offense then you will always perceive an offense. How sad it is that when a partner sees themselves as a constant victim of their spouse. This attitude is usually developed in the teen years or as a child of divorce.

### **2. A Blinded Heart**

You try so hard to remove the sin in your partners life, but you are unsuccessful because of the sin in your own life. To establish demands and expectations results in conditions that will not be met. You must approach one another's sin with maturity, grace, mercy and above all Love. (Luke 6:41-42) says, *"How can you even look at or examine the specks of sin in your brothers [partners] life when you have a log in your own " ?*

### **3. A Vengeful Heart**

Passive Vengeance: Neglecting your partners or families needs because of your own unresolved hurts.

- a. Neglecting sexual responsibilities because you got your feelings hurt.
- b. Neglecting household responsibilities because of unforgiveness. Or even childhood un-forgiveness'es

Aggressive Vengeance: Eye for an eye syndrome; doing back to them what they did to you.

- a. Adultery for adultery
- b. Spending money because they spent money.

### **4. A Stubborn Heart**

The first recognizable characteristics of the stubborn heart is the demands & expectations it places on your partner.

- a. Demands that our partner respond to our needs.
- b. Demands that our children meet our expectations of them; in regards to their spiritual training.
- c. Demanding that the church be more sensitive to our material & emotional desires.
- d. Demanding and expecting that nobody hurt you like you were in the past.
- e. Demanding and expecting that legitimate pleasures, long denied, be yours.

A heart that is stubborn expects and demands in order to secure its own happiness. This is impossible for anyone to do. Only God can bring satisfaction in these areas. Nobody can bring you consistent happiness.

### **5. A Self-destructive Heart**

A person who continually puts themselves down: They see only the negative in themselves. They measure themselves by the acceptance or rejection of others. This places them on an up & down relationship with God. The pressure the destructive heart feels is too:

- a. Perform to make God & others happy,
- b. Not even try because no matter what they do isn't right anyway.
- c. Feel that happiness is only for those who have their lives together and God blesses them.

### **6. A Selfish Heart**

They see themselves justified in their pursuit of self fulfillment. They carry with them extreme demanding expectations and conditions. They see themselves justified with any gain, even if it is at the expense of their partner. They hardly ever take into consideration the consequences of their actions, they are looking for the quick fix.

## **7. An Unforgiving Heart**

An unforgiving heart sees only its own wounds. It is selfish, blaming, emotionally irresponsible as well as spiritually irresponsible. It is constantly justifying itself and refuses to heal.

Consequences: ( see Matthew 18:21-35)

- a. Bitterness ( no satisfaction in life)
- b. Very critical of everyone.
- c. Poor health
- d. Depression
- e. Desperation
- f. Inexplicable anger or frustration.
- g. A constant need for someone to fix them.
- h. Unfulfilled sex life with there partner.

## **8. A Blaming Heart**

A blaming heart is a very insecure heart that can not take responsibility for its own actions. It is an unforgiving selfish cesspool of anger and unholy condemnation. It is a heart that is self deceived and will lie to itself in order to preserve its own means and or justification. It is the most dangerous unforgiving selfish heart there is. It is the combination of everything above.

One of the most innovative psychologists in this century said, " Only one kind of person that he considers hopeless is that kind of person who blames other people for his or her problems ". And I agree.

### ***Second***

Three Characteristics of a heart that can be healed and completely restored.

1. A Humble Heart:  
If we humble ourselves God will take up our cause.
2. A Repentant Heart:  
He who says he is without sin is a lier ! A repentant heart is a heart that is truly sorry and tries to reach out to the needs of the others. It is a sacrificial heart, willing to sacrifice its own desires for the sake of another.
3. A Heart For God:  
Hannah, the mother of Samuel was severely persecuted to the point of emotional abuse. Below you will see the three qualities that saved her and delivered her, and many other since.
  - a. Stayed in prayer
  - b. Non-blaming
  - c. Dedicated to doing it Gods way

### Remember:

Only God can heal or restore a heart. Healing comes when we stick to his principles and remain obedient to Him. The healing comes from God and only God. He will never leave you or forsake you. He will take up your cause.

## **MINISTERING TO COMMON MARITAL NEEDS**

A. Evaluating the Attitudes and Behaviors that Resist Positive Change in Marriage.

1. When the Marriage is looked at as being impossible:  
One person has made up their mind that things could never change.  
The constant complaint is that the other person does not change enough to suit there expectations.

2. The marriage that lacks Commitment:  
When this happens one or both may feel lonely, hurt and desperate for Love.
3. The marriage with mind reading capabilities:  
One or both are badgering the other with comments like " I knew you were going to do that", or trying to tell the other person what they really mean or think.
4. " I am in Charge" marriage.  
This is when they start acting independent of one another and start making major decisions on there own, regarding the home.
5. The Mom and Dad marriage:  
This is when the couple starts treating one another like mom & dad. This robs the relationship of intimacy. It is a killer of intimacy and respect in a marriage.
6. The Lethargic Man + the Energetic Woman marriage.  
This is when the man works hard all day and comes home tired and wanting to rest. He meets a woman that has been at home with the kids all day and in need of adult intimacy, conversation and attention. Maybe even needing a night out.
7. The Lack of Intimacy.  
Living with in-laws or having someone very involved in the marriage will kill intimacy in the relationship. Never allow this.
8. The Empty Nest Syndrome:  
When you have invested everything in your life for the sake of the children at the expense of your marriage, nothing is left when they start leaving home.

### **Communicating Successfully**

1. When a wife communicates to her husband she needs to speak to his head to reach his heart.
2. When a man communicates to his wife he needs to console her heart to reach her head.

#### **MEN:**

Men need to learn how to express understanding, sympathy and care. Other wise learn to be a compassionate listener, with there mouth shut, and to give there wives devoted attention. If he does this he will find his wife's wisdom very satisfying and at times very revealing.

#### **Women:**

Women need to control there emotional responses and expressions. If she does this she will find that the heart of her husband can express deep emotional care and love beyond anything she thought possible.

### **Four Seeds To A Successful Marriage.**

1. Seed of Honesty:  
Never leaving your partner with a false impression.
2. Seed of Protection:  
Never gain at your partners expense.
3. Seed of Caring:  
Knowing about and caring about your partners needs. Realizing this generates love in there heart.
4. Seed of Time:  
Knowing it takes at least 15 hours a week to plant the seeds of Honesty, Protection

and Care.

## **Reaping what you Sow**

The Law of reaping what you sow is unavoidable. But it does mean you have control over what you will sow into this life and what you will reap. This is determined by your actions and the words you speak. Problems or trials, like seeds, start out small. The ground, your marriage, is where it will grow.

Remember the four seeds to a successful marriage.

1. Seed of Honesty:  
Never leaving your partner with a false impression.
2. Seed of Protection:  
Never gain at your partners expense.
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Knowing it takes at least 15 hours a week to plant the seeds of Honesty, Protection and Care.

## **Five Seeds That Can Destroy a Marriage**

1. Friends & Relatives
2. Personal Ambition & Career Choices
3. Money & Material Things
4. Children
5. Sex

## **The Bad Seeds of Friends & Relatives**

When a man & woman get married they are to become one. But when they have friends or relatives inhibiting this union it makes the relationship very difficult. Often we find in-laws that just refuse to let go. They have been in control of their child's life for years and just refuse to let go. But they do not realize the seriousness of what they are doing. Some do not even realize what the are doing.

When a couple gets married they are still growing and maturing. Except now they are growing and maturing together. This is what joins them mentally and emotionally. But when you have parents insisting on there way in the relationship then you split emotions and feelings. This becomes an even greater problem when the children come. Family loyalties are split and a tremendous amount of stress is injected into the relationship.

This is especially true with women. Nothing is going to take daddies place in their life, but daddy can become the other man real quick. If daddy begins to tear down or disrespect his son in-law then the daughters heart is divided. This is especially true with a manipulative daddy during those hard times a couple will have to endure as part of their growing process. He can plant seed that will destroy his daughters marriage and not know it. Yet there are those who do it knowingly. Parents and in-laws can cause stress to the point of depression in there sons & daughters. Then they say it is the daughter in-law or son in-laws fault.

To choose the parents or grandparents wishes over your partners wishes will result in confusion and the ultimate destruction of the marriage. Read all of Eph. 5

*"For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother  
and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh."  
This is a great mystery, but I speak concerning Christ and the  
church. Nevertheless let each one of you in particular so love his  
own wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects her husband"*



(Eph. 5:31-33)  
*Who can find a virtuous wife?  
For her worth is far above rubies.  
The heart of her husband safely trusts her;  
So he will have no lack of gain.  
She does him good and not evil  
All the days of her life.*  
PROV 31:10-12

### **Friendships with ex boyfriends or girlfriends.**

Trying to maintain friendships with old boyfriends, girlfriends or lovers is out of the question. Some actually see nothing wrong with this. But it will destroy intimacy in the relationship. It can also cause a rift in the relationship, a weak point. It will be a link Satan will use every time there is trouble. Old girlfriends & boyfriends and especially lovers will come running to your aid and split your emotions. Now instead of growing you are wounded, and do not even know it.

### **Giving to the poor ?**

Never ever give to your friends or relatives at the expense of your partner. Even if they beg. This must be a decision agreed upon by both of you. No fare changing your mind after it has been done and you agreed upon it. But the law of giving is established and proven. If you have need then give as unto the Lord. Greed only produces selfishness and unforgiveness and will find its way between the two of you. But it still must be agreed upon if it will mean sacrifices on the part of your partner.

### **Making your friends your spouses friends ?**

The care of a friend should never take priority over the needs of your partner. Sometimes a slow breaking away is needed. Some friends will actually become an irritant in your relationship with your partner.

### **Liking your Spouses Friends Too Much?**

This is dangerous because it can lead to an affair with your partners best friend. This also applies with siblings. You should never ever become emotionally intimate with anyone of the opposite sex except your partner. Never look for fulfillment in any area of your life, from someone else, that you should be getting from your partner.

Example: Sister Jones found a listener in her brother in-law. He had listening skills her husband did not have. She began to have fantasies about him as a sexual partner and soon acted upon it. It was ultimately the destruction of her marriage, years later.

## **The Bad Seeds of Ambition and Career Choices**

### **The Workaholic:**

Your Career should serve the family, not the family serving the career. That is unless you are willing to sacrifice your family for your Career ?

Check list:

Do you put your Job before the needs of your Wife ?

Do you put your Job before the needs of your children ?

Do house, car, boat, neighborhood, church or money mean too much to you ?

Who is in control in your home, Jesus or your Job ?

Do you justify your time spent on the job as " Loving Your Family ".

Have you answered yes to any of the above ?

If so, you have a dangerous situation. He or She might be gone when you get home tomorrow.

### **Marrying Saint Paul:**

When one of you catches the vision of being a pastor or missionary after marriage. This can cause a great riff if the other does not agree with running off to Africa. This happens often in Christian Marriages. This is also something that needs to be discussed before the wedding bells. Do not allow your lust to over ride your call.

You should never gain at your partners expense. Even in ministry !

### **The Bad Seeds Of Money:**

When money and material objects become more important than your partners sanity or the stability of your home. You want him to buy that house or car and he is working day & night to do just that. But now you feel lonely and start badgering him about how much time he spends with you. Suddenly the next door neighbor is spending time with you and your loneliness is relieved. The relationship is severely damaged.

Decide what you want. Do you want a partner or a provider ? Either one will result in sacrifices and you might have to get a job.

You should never ever make major financial decisions without first discussing it with your partner.

### **Conspiring:**

1. Blaming one another for your money problems.
2. Not taking responsibility for what it takes to get out of the hole.

### **The Idealist:**

This is where each partner feels they have a legitimate goal. So they each channel the money in that direction.

REMEMBER:

What ever the two of you decide must strengthen your marriage.

### **When Do Children become the bad seed in a marriage ?**

1. When the children become your center.

This is when you start putting the children's wants & desires before your partners needs. The children need a healthy marriage before anything else.

2. When you start relying on the children to meet your emotional needs .

Do not ever make your child a sounding board for your problems. This will destroy both your marriage and them. It will split their emotions and feelings causing a great instability within the home.

3. When the children become the excuse.

This is when you consistently deny your partner in anyway and use the children as the excuse. The other partner will start looking upon the children as competition.

4. When the two of you can not agree upon discipline.

When you can not agree upon discipline the children will look upon the discipline as abuse. The two of you must agree. Otherwise every time daddy swats Tommy and Tommy sees that look in moms eye or hears her objection he feels as though daddy did something wrong. The same thing will be felt when mom sets Tommy in the corner and dad has that look. But the children will pick the form of discipline they prefer and the other will be considered abuse by both the children and the other spouse. Whether it is or not ! This alone can cause problems for someone, for the rest of there life.

### **When does Sex become a bad seed ?**

1. When the Woman thinks it is a curse from God.
2. When it was something taught to be feared or made dirty.
3. When it is made to be uncomfortable.
4. When it is denied to often.
5. When it is something not agreed upon.
6. When it is forced or used as a punishment.

Having a healthy sex life is vital to the marriage. Discounting or ignoring your partners creativity will cause deep hurts and stifle the sex life. Be willing to discuss it or try it. You might find it isn't all that bad, or it might be something you can tolerate from time to time to give satisfaction to your partner. But it must always be done in love and never resented. It is better to say no than to resent it.

Your sex life should never ever be disused with anyone but a trained professional for the purpose of therapy or maybe medical reasons. Never talk about it where the children can hear. Just because they are in bed does not mean they cannot hear what you are saying.

Guard your sex life. Nothing like pornographic materials should ever be introduced. It can cause unhealthy fantasies, mental affairs, it opens the door to the enemy and is just plain destructive. Even if it is something agreed upon it will destroy your sex life. It never enhances it. If you need this to get turned on then you need to seek professional counseling. If you allowed it, you need professional counseling.

Sex is one of the first things to go when there is sin in your partners life. Communication and honesty is vital to maintaining a healthy sex life. Unforgiveness or selfishness will, without question, destroy your sex life and your marriage. If you are a selfish or unforgiving person then your partner will not be able to honestly communicate with you, so work on it.

## **DIVORCE & THE CHILDREN**

The myths surrounding this topic are many. I have talked to both children and adult children regarding this subject and have received an enlightening education. Like most I believed these myths and theories regarding children of divorce. I am not going to get into the long term psychological effects as much as I am going to get into see-able behaviors and their effects. That will be in the next book. Because an entire book can be written on this topic alone.

I have seen and experienced the tears and pain Separation & Divorce causes in the children. I have talked to parents and adult children of divorce. *They all agree that the decision to divorce is a decision the children will have to live with the rest of their lives.* Divorce is possibly the most damaging thing in a child's life. But there have been some very positive results after Jesus is introduced into their lives and understanding.

One of the most damaging things to a child's life regarding divorce is the absence of the daily interaction of the father. Without this the children are robbed of their true identity.

To begin with I want to talk about the immediate first aid a child needs to get through the first stages of separation and divorce. You will find this a very simple straight forward approach. I have done it this way on purpose so it will be easier to understand. It is meant to get you thinking about what and or how you are handling the situation. I have tried to relay a child's message in their language. If they can not clearly understand what is written here then I felt I wasn't expressing their feelings properly.

*Separation and Divorce  
First Aid  
For Children !*

For anyone that has ever taken first aid you are familiar with term, "The Golden Hour". This is the time that the victim needs the most care to survive. Without proper care the victim has a very low chance of surviving. In this chapter we are going to talk about emotional & mental CPR. ( Children Parents & Responsibilities).

## **The First 90 Days**

The first 90 days are going to be the most critical. These are the golden hours in regards to the children's emotional & mental well being. What is done and how it is done will determine the recovery time and the amount of healing that will be needed. First I will talk about what NOT to do and the effects of the do not's. There are thousands of them but I will list the 8 I feel are the most important.

Eight ways to eventually loose your Children.

### **1. Do not lie to the children.**

You will pay for this dearly in the long run and so will they. Children tend to grow up and remember. They will figure things out and hate you and anyone involved in the lie. You must protect your children from these lies at all costs. Even if they are angry with you for a little while.

Hurt by truth heals quickly. Hurt by a lie breaches the trust factor in them and can break the bonds you have with them, sometimes forever.

### **2. Do not exaggerate the other partners actions.**

Exaggeration is something that goes right along with the pains of betrayal, desperation, anger and loneliness. It is very difficult to not exaggerate when these feelings are present. But on the other hand your children will know if you are exaggerating. They might even go alone with you at first in order to keep peace between you and them. After all, Mom & Dad are leaving one another due to anger, as they see it, what is going to happen if mom or dad gets angry with them?

### **3. Do not blame the other partner; for decisions you are making.**

Never ever say you are filing for divorce because you hate, are angry with, or because you can not forgive the other partner. This establishes the fact that you do not forgive. This plants deadly seeds in your children.

#### **Like:**

1. Forgiveness is not as important as a persons happiness.
2. It establishes a pattern of selfishness.
3. Family loyalties are not as important as ones own desires.
4. What if Mom or Dad gets angry with me ?
5. My step dad is doing some of the same things Dad did, will mom divorce him too.

### **4. Do not compare the other partner with anyone else.**

This is very dangerous, because no one is perfect. When you compare your partner to someone else that is not perfect; the children wonder why you left to begin with. They do not see things as you see them. Their love is unconditional and you will tear their emotions apart by comparing. By comparing you cause them to Choose sides. This rips them apart.

### **5. Do not speak or act hostile towards the other partner.**

Remember, your children will get older and remember. They are not going to understand your feelings of hostility towards the other partner. Again you are ripping them apart and

causing them to choose. It may not be you. Later when they can decide for themselves you might find yourself alone.

What are you teaching them in this situation or through these circumstances. When all is said and done will they be stronger or weaker.

#### **6. Do not let your children become your Sounding board.**

If you need a sounding board, find an adult. Do not vent your feelings on your children. This too will come back to haunt you. They are not just listening to your words. They are seeing your actions and interpreting what you say and do.

They will store this in their minds and one day repeat every word as they understood it. You could be a lier by the way a child's mind has interpreted what you said in a moment of heated emotions. It will not take them long to figure out that a lot of your emotion is only justification or an attempt to make you look good and the other one look bad.

#### **7. Do not with-hold visitation.**

Do not keep the children from seeing the other partner unless you have a real good "honest" reason. Do not make things up to justify why you are punishing your partner with the children. They will figure that one out too. They will hate you for it.

Later they will figure it out if you have manipulated them into not wanting to visit.

These do not's and the responses were the result of talking to children and adult children. These were not taken from some book somewhere, I went straight to the horses mouth. The children came up with about fifty do not's but agreed on these eight as being the most important.

Notice that there is not one materialistic thing listed here. Also notice that all say these points are something that they figured out one day; or already know but do not tell you right away.

I heard the same statement a lot. "Do you parents think we are stupid". The harder you try to turn a kid against the other partner the less they will think of you.

#### **8. Do Not talk about child support issues around the children !**

Among the children I talked to they said six things about child support.

1. It was the custodial parents way of getting revenge.
2. The custodial parent blamed every financial hardship on lack of support.
3. The custodial parent made too big a deal about it.
4. The children were sick of hearing about it.
5. Why did we leave if things were going to be so bad ?
6. It stressed them out and caused them to hate the other partner, because it stressed the custodial parent out. Not because of the lack of money.

The children are not stupid, they wonder why you bought that item if the family is so financially desperate. They wonder why they can not join the baseball team and you can go out every Friday night with the girls/boys. How can you afford new clothing every payday and scream when the support check is late or never comes. Children are not stupid. It is better to not discuss the support issues at all with them. Because it is called Child Support they will look at all issues as their fault. Sometimes secretly.

#### ***Seven ways to save there lives.***

##### **1. They must be told constantly it is not there fault.**

No matter what they say, a child believes it is their fault to some degree. You must reinforce the fact that it isn't their fault. That it was a decision made by the adult or adults involved. You must do so in a way that does not point a finger. Do not tell them or allow them to believe there pain is because of the other partner. Remember, they are not stupid; they will

interrupt this as being their fault. I know this does not make a lot of sense to an adult, but it makes sense to a child.

## **2. Keep your mouth shut, use restraint when speaking around the children.**

Your children are like little tape recorders. What and how you say it is filtered through their emotions before it is stored on their tapes. These tapes will be played back with every emotional trigger they experience for the rest of their lives.

You could be creating something you will not like as a teenager or young adult. Then when you ask them why? or what happened? they will play back those tapes. You might not like what you hear. Everything you say will be a seed; that might not start growing until the children themselves are married.

And when it comes to any advice you may offer about relationships or marriage your word will no longer be very credible with them.

## **3. Be honest and do not assume anything.**

One of the most destructive myths there is, is that the kids are resilient and will snap back or just get over it. If you are assuming this you have sealed your child's destiny of heartache and shattered relationships. Without proper care and healing they will grow up with anger and bitterness as their root reaction to negative emotional stimulation. Or they will grow up not being able to commit to anything and will live in fear expecting someone else to free them.

They will grow up to expect their mates to fill that void left in them by the absences of either the father or mother. Not a single kid of divorce said that a step parent ever filled that void. They did say that Jesus was the only one that satisfied it in the absences of the other parent. But nothing else.

They said they tried everything from drugs to sleeping around to fill that empty spot. But could not find anything that fit like Dad or Mom. They didn't care what they were like, they wanted them in their lives.

## **4. Be open to the children's feelings, actions & responses.**

When I was talking to some of these children some of them said it was the first time an adult had listened to them in regards to their feelings regarding the divorce or divorces. These included 35 year old adults. These are people that had held all that anger and bitterness within them for up to 30 years. They had questions that were never answered. And there were questions that nobody ever asked them. They felt nobody cared, including their parents. They said the feelings they had buried down inside them were directly or indirectly the cause for their own divorces.

After speaking to them they said that more healing had taken place in those 30 to 45 minutes we talked than in their entire lives; whether it was an email response or directly talking to me over the phone. They all said that they could remember the divorce like it was yesterday or recall the feelings felt when they became adolescents and started figuring things out.

Some realized that these feelings had tortured and terrorized them their entire lives. This is terrible, because now we have a great part of that generation trying to raise this generation's children under all that buried hurt.

In talking to the teens and pre-adolescent children I discovered a severe lack of trust for the custodial parent. Why? was my question to them. Because they never cared about their feelings or about finding out what they were doing.

It was agreed in one group of eight teens one day that it was the children raising the children. They talked to one another and compare lives. This built rebellion and resentment towards all adults with a complete lack of respect for authority figures; such as police officers, teachers, counselors and clergy. There was a lot of resentment towards the system.

I never limited my research to low income children. Some of the adult children I talked to were counselors, teachers and clergy. Some of the teens were, as some might say, well off. Yet these children cared nothing for the house, clothing, cars or material things their parents bought them; they said they would rather live on the streets where someone would listen to them. The problem with that was, you still had children raising children.

As T.D. Jakes said on an interview I watched. These children do not know who they are and will become whatever the first person, they encounter, tells them who they are. This could be a gang member or another child.

Who is shaping your child's destiny ?

What is shaping your child's destiny ?

Are they being shaped in accordance with your anger ?

### **5. Remember, they are feeling the same hurt you are.**

When you are laying there in bed hurting and alone wondering what happen, your children are next door hurting and thinking the same things. Do not be selfish, keep this in mind when that hollow gut wrenching feeling crawls up out of your guts and hits your heart. Keep it mind when your mind and imagination starts running at a thousand miles per hour, so is theirs. Even if they fail to admit it, inquire about it. Let them know you care about there feelings and be a listener. **When they start expressing hurt do not interrupt and start dumping your hurt on them.**

By listening to them and interacting with them, it is going to bring your hurt and pain to the surface. It will hurt terribly to listen to their pain, and you will be a cause of some of it. Take your medicine ! They have got to feel comfortable with expressing their negative feelings, even if it is directed at you. Do not offer excuses, never do that. Do not offer blame, never do that either. If necessary apologize for your partner or ex-partner. Let the children heal, do not offer more or deeper wounds. Do not allow your pride to be the destruction of generations of children.

### **6. Be willing to cuddle them and allow them to vent or cry.**

Children crave and need physical contact. There is more healing power in a cuddle than years worth of counseling.

I had a little boy come sit on my lap and ask me to be his daddy for the evening. I agreed and he softly whimpered and cuddled in my arms for nearly two hours. It rips my insides up just to remember this incident because he must have said at least fifty times, "I am sorry mommy". Later I found out that this little guy thought mommy was angry with him too. She had stopped cuddling with daddy when she was angry. Now daddy is gone and now she wouldn't cuddle with him anymore. He was afraid mommy was going to ask him to leave. Because she kept expressing her anger towards " That Man" he felt her anger was towards all males. She had also used the expression, when angered, " you are just like your father ". Now this all happened two years prior. But his little tape player hadn't stopped.

### **7. Be respectful when the children see you and your ex-partner together. ( Watch body Language )**

Several children expressed that they had always wanted to go see their other parent but couldn't handle the way the two of them acted when they were around one another. So they just kept away from the non-custodial parent to void the reaction of the custodial parent. After all they had to live with the custodial parent. When ever a desire to see the non-custodial parent was expressed the custodial parents response left them feeling guilty for wanting to see daddy or mommy.

So some had to lie about their feelings toward the non-custodial parent to avoid the guilt and conflict that resulted in telling the truth. Then later when they did tell the truth about how they felt, the custodial parent would say, " but that isn't what you said, back then ". Well, the child was afraid to express their true feelings. Now they hate the one they couldn't express them to. Sometimes this includes all adults.

So these children went through life expressing feelings about the non-custodial parent that were not even true.

Why ?

Because these two adults couldn't act civil towards one another and be respectful.

The above do's & do not's can be confirmed by talking to anyone that has gone through it. The ones that have healed found Jesus to be the only way to fill the emptiness and repair the hurt. If you are still blinded by the pain you may be in a form of denial that will not allow these feelings to be brought back to the surface.

A mother asked her forty year old son if his life of torment & failures were due to his dad. The mother was completely blown away to find out that it wasn't dad at all, but her. You see this forty year old had been told his entire life that it was his absent father that caused all this pain and emptiness within him. He had forgiven his father thousands of times but could not get relief.

Then Jesus came in and sorted things out. The reason the man could never heal was because he was forgiving the wrong person, all those years. He was held in bondage to unforgiveness through the bitterness of his mother. She had blamed a guy that wasn't even there, for all her anger and every failure. Thus, locking up her children causing them to experience the same anger as she did.

When your children express their hurt NEVER EVER come back with, " How do you think I feel ". or " I have been there " and then hit them with your sad story. You will loose them.

### Grandparents and Divorce

I was having a hard time writing this section because of the split emotional response I would get from the children of divorce. Grandparents play a big part in most divorce cases. Never let the children here you tell your child to divorce their partner.

When you talk about it do not think the children are asleep. Nearly all the children I have talked to say they hear most of what they hear while laying in bed. They are deeply hurt and confused because of their love and loyalty to their parents. They do not see things the way you see them. Others say they were sent outside, but they only listened at the windows & doors.

You could be ripping holes in the hearts of your grandchildren and never know it until their little tape players play it back for you one day. Or when you are sitting alone wondering why your grown grandchildren refuse to visit you. If you are sitting alone today, think about it. It might be repairable with a simple statement like, " Forgive Me ".

I know there are no deep psychological terms here, and like I said in the beginning, I am writing this simple enough for a ten year old to understand. I tried very hard to convey a message from the children.

#### **There is one commandment that carries a promise, in the bible.**

*"Honor your father and your mother,  
as the LORD your God has commanded you,  
that your days may be long,  
and that it may be well with you....."  
(Deut. 5:16)*

#### **This very Command also carries a curse.**

*For God commanded,  
Honor your father and your mother, and,  
He who curses or reviles or speaks evil of or  
abuses or treats improperly his father  
or mother, let him surely come to  
his end by death.  
(MT 15:4 amplified)*

#### **There is also a warning for those who cause a child to dishonor their father or mother.**

*"But whoever causes one of these little ones*



*who believe in Me  
to sin, it would be better for him if a millstone  
were hung around his neck,  
and he were drowned in the depth of the sea."  
(MT 18:6)*

**What happens if your child or Grandchild is walking in unforgiveness.**

*'Should you not also have had compassion  
on your fellow servant, just as I had pity on you?'  
"And his master was angry,  
and delivered him to the torturers  
until he should pay all that was due to him.  
"So My heavenly Father also will do to you  
if each of you, from his heart,  
does not forgive his brother his trespasses."  
(Matt. 18-33-35)*

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