



“I Found My Wife When I Married My Church”

Bishop Frank and JoeNell Summerfield

Texts: Genesis 2:18-24, Proverbs 18:22, I Corinthians 13:11, Ephesians 5:25

Being married is probably the biggest adjustment I've had to make in my life so far. Literally everything changes. I am no longer just worried about myself but I am responsible for the well being of another person. God is the head of my life but I work, I breathe, I compromise, and sacrifice all for my wife.

For me this adjustment has been interesting. Bringing someone into your space after you have been living, doing what you want, and going as you please have all of a sudden stopped. Its not so much that I have to get permission but I like to communicate with my wife the things that I believe are important so we are bot on the same page.

Sitting under this great ministry and constantly exposing myself to the Word of God I was prepared for it. I asked God for a wife years ago and I knew that he would answer my prayers so as a single man I had to begin making adjustments within myself to take on the responsibility of having a woman as a wife.

I thank God for my wife everyday. I believe in a marriage it's best when you are spirit filled and spirit led, because you definitely need them.

Galatians 5: 22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, 23: Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.

This is something I have to practice every moment of everyday with everyone, but most importantly my wife. I am no longer making decisions for myself, but I have to take into consideration the interest of my wife.

How I respond, my body language, my tone in speech all plays a part in how my wife responds to me. With me being the head I have to set the tone of how we flow in the home with each other. If I don't practice these fruits it will be difficult for us to make love, better yet get along.

I'm not saying everyday will be roses and daises, but it is how we work out our situations that will allow us to move forward. We can work everything in our marriage out with us putting God first in all of our ways.

One major thing that I have learned that helps our marriage is when we have disagreements and we might offend one another with what or how something is said, is to acknowledge that it is wrong and apologize. An apology will go along way! You learn from that situation and try not to allow it to happen again.

STUDY NOTES



“The Power of a Positive Self Image”

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When I was a single man I was always on the go running the streets, partying, doing whatever I wanted when I wanted, but with everybody around me and those so called friends I still felt lonely.

I still found myself partying, clubbing, drinking, smoking, and running the streets. Doing all the things of the world and not living for God. I really was living a dysfunctional life and had the nerve to call myself saved.

God showed me his real power when I found myself destitute without a job, without any direct means of income, and humbled to the point that the only strength I had was in him.

21 And the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam, and he slept: and he took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh instead thereof;

22 And the rib, which the Lord God had taken from man, made he a woman, and brought her unto the man.

23 And Adam said, This is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh: she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man.

24 Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh.

I began changing my ways, my thinking, my thought process, who I was hanging around and rededicated myself to Christ and truly live for him.

Before, I used to date with a motive of being sexually active with a female without any feelings or thoughts of repercussions, but when I started living for God I began dating with a purpose. I had a deeper understanding and meaning of what a relationship is.

As hard as it may seem being a single man and not being sexually active became challenging at first. I felt as if I was giving something up, but in actuality I was developing my spiritual temple.

I Corinthians 13:11 When I was a child, I spake as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child: but when I became a man, I put away childish things.

It took for me to become spiritually mature and decide that marriage was the best route to go if I wanted to quit living in sin, and love one woman. I quit entertaining company that didn't encourage or inspire me. The females that didn't have any spiritual consciousness began getting crossed off of my list. I knew that God had a woman perfectly designed and created just for me.

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25 And they were both naked, the man and his wife, and were not ashamed.

My prayer life increased, my faith increased, my overall awareness of the Holy Spirit increased. I became more sensitive to the Holy Spirit. God began to align certain things in my life that lead me to my wife that would not have happened if I was still running around in the streets like a grown boy.

My life has improved so much since I became married.

Proverbs 18:22 Whoso findeth a wife findeth a good thing, and obtaineth favour of the Lord.

I don't think the same, do the same thing or go the same places. Usually if you see me I am with my wife. To be honest I really don't like to spend that much time away from her. I am able to share my ideas, have another perspective on how I view things, and develop new ways of handling situations. She helps me so much. She makes me want to be a better man and husband. She makes me want to provide for her and give her the finer things in life.

Genesis 2:18 And the Lord God said, It is

not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him

Making this transition from single life to a married man wasn't just simple and easy. It was truly an adjustment in everything I do. It's not just me that I worry about. I am concerned about my wife's wellbeing as well. Everything in the house is double now, but that's okay. I have to share everything but that's okay. I have two cars to wash, but that's okay. If she has debt, I got debt. If she has health concerns I got health concerns. I have more money to manage, and that's okay! Her and I are one body, one flesh, one spirit. In every area of my life I am gaining and increasing, and I thank God and my wife for it.

Ephesians 5:25 Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it;

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