

Make Church a Part of Your Life

WEEKLY SERMONETTE

"Element of Stability"

By Preacher/Teacher Terry Laughlin, CrossRoads Ministries

"For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and they will become one flesh." (Genesis 2:24-25) The first step to enjoying marriage until death do you part is to grasp what the Bible means when it says leave his family so the couple can enjoy their new pledge to each other. Once this is being established in the spiritual heart, the element of "stability" can be applied.

The Bible says, "...be joined with his wife." (Genesis 2:24) "Joined" (*dābaq*) means to cling to and stay with. The application is something sticking together and when used in a marriage relationship it is a man clinging to his wife, no matter what life throws at them and she sticks with him, thus bringing stability.

While attending Junior High School, I watched our wood working instructor make a heavy duty work bench. He did not have large enough pieces of wood to make the legs that would be needed to withstand all the stress that would be applied to the table in the upcoming years. He took several pieces of wood and glued them together with wood glue. He put them in a vice and tightened it down. After the glue dried he took the four legs to the wood lathe. It spun with tremendous speed and he took different tools and carved the image he desired, amazingly the wood pieces held together.

He then attached the four legs to the bench and for 30+ years this bench has withstood all sorts of pounding, moving and different weights laid upon it.

A marriage that allows God, Jesus and the Holy Spirit of Christ to join the couple together will withstand all the weight that is laid upon it. Many a Christian couple surrendered to the Lordship of

Christ has enjoyed the stability of absolute devotion, absolute loyalty, uncompromising affection and love. When the human flesh cuts at the heart of marriage, when this world's view throws its most captivating lures and when Satan has told his most convincing lies – the Lord supernaturally interjects an element of stability. Marriages under the Lordship

of Jesus Christ have couples who enjoy God's stability in the midst of health crises, financial hardships, tragedies and uncertainties of life.

Living in this sin cursed world places couples in situations that allow hardships, afflictions and temptations to come at times with tremendous speed. As Christians allow the Holy Spirit of Christ to take the Word of God as the tool to carve them into the image He desires, their marriages will hold together until death parts them. For 30, 40, 50 years and more these marriages will withstand all sort of poundings, displacements and the different weights that will be laid upon them. With the Lord as Head of the marriage each married couple will have their own design – yet reflecting an image of stability birthing forth a confidence seen by all. In his book "Marriage, From Surviving to Thriving," Charles Swindoll wrote, "Any marriage that has lasted as long as ours includes many others who have played significant roles in both of our lives."

While living in times such as these – where so many marriages are failing, you by choice can enjoy a marriage that presents stability in uncertain times. Our newlyweds need to see testimonies of marriages grounded in the Lordship of Christ and Holy Spirit led through the guidance of the written Word of God.

Thanks, Mom

One day, a young boy will become a man with adventure and ambition on his mind; right now, letting him go is unthinkable. As a mom, you are making a difference each day. You are teaching your young child to be courageous, yet cautious...to smile and have dreams for the future. You encourage him with faith and support...you strengthen him with your presence.

Have you taught your child about his Heavenly Father? One day you and your young one will be apart, but if he knows God, he will never be alone. Make a difference in a spiritual way...worship as a family. It will give your child the courage he will need to make a difference in the world. One day he will say, "Thanks, Mom!"

Scriptures Selected by The American Bible Society
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Sunday Romans 8.18-39	Monday Romans 12.1-21	Tuesday Romans 13.1-14	Wednesday Romans 14.1-23	Thursday Psalm 80	Friday Romans 15.1-13	Saturday John 14.1-14
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Biblically Answering Concerns

Many Christians today do not have Holy Spirit revelation of the spiritual warfare involved in the battle for the souls of mankind. Those who take seriously this battle have the same revelation as the Apostle Paul, "For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds. We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ." (2 Corinthians 10:3-5)

Paul answers his critics and defends his ministry in 2 Corinthians 10:1-18 (The Bible Exposition Commentary; Matthew Henry Commentary; The Bible Knowledge Commentary; Tyndale Concise Bible Commentary; New Bible Commentary; A Commentary, Critical and Explanatory; The Pulpit Commentary; The Expositors Bible Commentary) Every Christian ministry moving forward in the work of the Lord has critics – Preachers of the Word like Paul have every right, just like Paul to vindicate their ministry and show that their work is called forth by God. (Barnes Notes; New Bible Commentary)

Since refocusing CrossRoads Ministries, we have had concerns expressed and questions asked. Therefore, we have created a new ministry on our website:

"Biblically Answering Concerns."

Visit our **FREE** website

www.standthecrossroads.com

Click on "The Teacher." Find and click on, "Biblically Answering Concerns" to find answers to these questions.

- 1.) Where the Exercising of Spiritual Gifts
- 2.) Proselytizing
- 3.) What Expressions of Love Have You Shown
- 4.) Spiritual Office
- 5.) What Credentials Allow You to Publically Preach God's Word?
- 6.) Who Are You Accountable To?
- 7.) Will You Endorse Our Church?
- 8.) Money/Time Publishing the Word of God

When Christians are exposed to ministries of Biblical accountability, they are to die to their own opinions, throw off spiritual traditionalism and legalism, and rejoice in what God is doing. Acts 11:18 says, "When they heard [Peter's full accounting], they had no further objections, and praised God..."

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