

**MARRIAGE TEACHING**  
(Pastor Solomon Folorunsho)

God established marriage for your own benefit, so that it will help you. Be happy about it. You need help, God wouldn't give you something that you don't need.

Don't talk to each other as if you didn't want this person before and it is only because of God that you married him or her. You need each other, without him/her your life wouldn't be complete, so appreciate your husband or your wife.

When God gives you a husband, it is because you need a husband. When He gives you a wife, it is because you need a wife. See the value of it! When you are hungry, you don't begin to quarrel with your food – you need it. Even if your husband/wife is an unbeliever (you got saved after you were married), as far as you have children together, you have to know that you need him/her.

Maybe because you and your husband/wife have been staying together for long you are no more seeing that good thing in him/her but if he/she is not around for some time, you will know the value again!

Proverbs 18:22 – Marriage brings good things, it brings favour. Favour is supposed to come from right and left. Two are better than one. Marriage is a covenant/agreement between husband, wife and God. If one breaks that agreement, suffering will start. At any time the enemy was able to attack the husband or the wife, something has happened in advance that made an open door, that made the hedge to be broken.

If there are problems in marriage, try to find out together where the whole thing started instead of blaming each other. If it came from you, take your correction and change. Don't defend your wrong! Apology has healing-power. Don't think that your sorry gives pride to the other, it doesn't but it will heal the other person. Don't refuse to admit your fault, don't transfer that blame, don't give chance to satan.. Have the attitude of admitting your fault, don't think that if you admit your fault you will no more be respected.

Don't carry a matter in your mind for a whole day or longer. If you do that, you leave the presence of the Lord and enter into the presence of the devil and your heart will become stronger because the grudge you keep inside of you has made the Holy Spirit to sneak out of your heart. Don't let the disagreement stand longer than the Bible allows ("Let not the sun go down upon your wrath/anger."). Eph.4:26-27. "Anger" here means to have pain. You can have that pain but don't let it make you commit sin and don't let it stay for long in your heart. If you don't obey this, you are giving chance to the devil. When you carry offence longer than this, you are giving chance to the devil. It is sin that opens the door for the devil to strike. Pray that anywhere you gave the devil chance to enter your marriage, God will forgive you. Tell the devil to leave! You will see your joy return and things will come back to normal. If you see somebody that does not let the matter die, just know that the devil has taken over that person. Then begin to generate love immediately. If you generate anger, the devil will take over you. Rather quietly pray for your partner and command the devil to leave him or her. But don't say it out loud, this would only make the other to be angry more.

Don't go to narrate your husband's/wife's failures to the whole world, if you do that you are only embarrassing yourself. Even if you tell only your closest friend, that one is going to spread the news! Your mother, your friend etc. can not build your marriage. Your marriage is going to be the way you want it to be. If there is misunderstanding, the right person to meet is the person you have misunderstanding with and no other person.

Two are better than one, if one falls, the other will lift him/her up. Marriage is not only made for sex or to have children - it is if one person falls/backslides, the other one is supposed to get into fasting and prayers and lift his/her partner up back to Christ.

You are supposed to bring the person back to where he or she was before. Show love to draw the person to come back, don't use anger, hatred etc. or else you will only completely finish the person.

Some people think that as far as their marriage is the will of God, two of them will never have problems – this is ignorance! The will of God does not rule out temptations or that one backslides.

It is God that conducted the first marriage (Adam and Eve) but the marriage did not last without problems because one of them decided to disobey God. So they had to leave the garden of Eden and later on their first son killed their second son – somebody opened this door. It was not God's fault that their marriage did not last successfully.

In the Bible even some prophets and kings who were chosen by God backslided and began to work against God. But this should not make you to think that the will of God is not good and that you should rather choose by yourself! If you see people that got married in the will of God and they have some problems, don't concentrate on that and be discouraged from getting married in the will of God. There are many good things coming out of that same marriage – look at THAT!

If your husband is angry because of anything (it must not be because of you) release soft words unto him, it will make him to cool down. God will help you to speak the right words to your husband/wife.

Be that kind of husband/wife that people will see and be encouraged to marry in the will of God.

Some people marry without really knowing what marriage is, they are not prepared and this will later affect their marriage. Prepare to accommodate, to bear, to stay with another person.

Once you make up your mind to marry, prepare for the following:

Eph. 5:21ff – It is the fear of God that will make you to submit to one another. Submit to your husband as if it is God you are submitting to. If you want to marry you have made up your mind to submit to your husband in everything that is right and biblical. If a woman submits to her husband they submit to God. Any woman that does not submit to the husband is disobeying God. If you don't submit to your husband, if you don't respect and honour him and if you talk to him anyhow, you are not a christian, you are breaking the covenant, you are bringing the devil home. If you discover that it is paining you to call your husband your lord, that it is hard for you to submit in the right things, you have to go for counseling, there is a demon behind that.

If you don't submit to your husband you don't have a head and if you don't have a head you don't have sense and then the devil comes in.

If you refuse to sleep with your husband you are breaking the covenant and another spirit will come in. Don't refuse to sleep with your husband in order to punish him. If you do that you are bringing the devil into your marriage, into your family, into your home, into your children. As christians, what makes us christians is how we live by the word of God. Without the Bible there would not be christianity. The Bible guides us on how to live in every aspect of our lives. God knew that we are going to have issues in our marriage, so He put down the solutions in His word on how the wife should live with her husband and vice versa. Anybody that finds it difficult to live according to the word of God should examine him-/herself and ask whether he/she really belongs to God.

Romans 8:6-8 – it is not only talking about things like perming or make-up but also about reasoning like the world and doing things contrary to the word of God.

Vs.6: there is supposed to be vibrancy and peace in your marriage.

If you are a christian and you know the truth from the Bible that you are supposed to submit to your husband but you don't do it you are worse than unbelievers that don't submit to their

husband. If you know you are not ready to come under a man, remain single. But if you want to marry make up your mind to submit to your husband as unto the Lord.

Don't oppress your husband because he has a gentle nature and does not like making trouble. Don't use your husband's weakness to manipulate and control him and bind him or else you are bringing judgement upon yourself. He is a child of God, Jesus is his Lord. If you maltreat a child of God, God will not be happy with you. Be happy and satisfied where God dropped you. God put you under somebody, be happy and satisfied. If you want to stay under what is too big you, the hedge will be broken. Serve your husband, respect him, reference him. Don't try to control, let the Holy Spirit control. God gave you the best person, honour him, don't despise him because of his weakness. Submit to your husband, so that the grace of God will be upon you when problems come up or else you bring yourself under multiple attacks and you will not have that grace to overcome when God is resisting you. Even if your husband is short, illiterate, poor or has only one leg, he is your husband and you must see him as your lord. The person you married is the bone of your bone and the flesh of your flesh. You must love your husband and submit to him.

What is the limit of submission? Submit to your husband as unto the Lord, don't join him to do evil but in every other thing submit completely. Your submission to your husband should be based on "as unto the Lord", which means in righteousness. If your husband does not submit to God, submit to him in the things that are righteous and be praying for him if you see your husband going the wrong way, love him, pray for him and endure.

If you have agreed to marry you have agreed to submit in the Lord.

Romans 8:7-8 – Anytime you find it difficult to please God you know that something is wrong. The very moment you choose to disobey God you have chosen to obey satan.

Eph. 5:23 - The head of the church is Christ, the head of the wife is the husband. Who controls the church? Christ. And who controls the wife? Her husband. Anytime you disobey your husband you have committed adultery, your head is off.

Christ is the Saviour of the body (the church) and who is the saviour of the wife's body? Her husband. As a husband you must pay the price to make your wife look good, fresh and happy. You must pay that price. It is an agreement/covenant that has two sides.

Christ gives to/heals/protects and anoints the church with the oil of gladness. You have to do the same for your wife, care for her as Jesus cares for the church. The way Jesus gave Himself for the church, so you have to give yourself for your wife and as she submits to you the same way the church submits to Christ, the whole thing is balanced.

Don't hide money from your wife. If you do that you have a divided home.

Eph. 5:22 – Your wife has to submit to you in only the things that are good. When you make your wife to live contrary to the will of God you bring judgement upon yourself. She is God's daughter, she wants to obey God, therefore you have to submit to the Lord in order to be qualified to lead your wife. Once a woman submits to you and you refuse to submit to God it makes both of you to be in disobedience. A genuine child of God will be happy to submit herself unto a man that submits to God. It is your responsibility to lead your wife in the fear of God, don't oppress her. Show good example of a godly/responsible husband, don't be a hinderance.

Eph.5:25 – Christ restores the soul, brings us into the presence of God etc. That is what you have to do to your wife. Give her your body, everything. Make her that good thing you will love and treasure. Don't say you don't want to maintain your wife because you don't want other men to lust after her and take her from you. If you think like this you are a fool. The day you have decided to marry a woman you have decided to be there for her in the day, in the night, in the cold, in the heat, in everything!

Your submission to your husband does not make you a slave and your giving yourself to your wife does not make you a servant to your wife.

If you are the only one working, stop using money to oppress your wife.

Don't say your wife is not doing anything because she is staying at home. There she is taking care of the children, of the house, she is cooking and washing clothes. If she was doing this in another person's house, wouldn't they pay her? The money you are working for outside the house is what she is working for at home!

Some men look at women not to have sense. When you look down on a whole human being that carried you in the womb for nine months, something is wrong with you. This is the mind of unbelievers, if you are a christian you have to change that mindset. Don't look at woman to be half-human beings and you as a woman, don't look at yourself like that. Look at every human being to be a good person that God has created.

People say: "A man does not cry but his eyes are red." This is not biblical at all, a man is not a man because he does not cry. Don't boast for hardness of heart, boast for faith that you believe God to intervein into your situation. Don't harden your heart as a man.

There are people watching you, even if you don't know. So what example are you giving? Think twice before you do something, you don't know who is watching you without you being aware.

Do you play with your wife? Or are you somebody that always plays with other people but immediately you see your wife your face becomes strong? If so, then something is wrong with you, you need to go for counseling, open up!

Eph.5:28,29 – Anybody that hates his wife hates himself. As Christ nourishes the church, so the husband is supposed to make his wife look beautiful.

Col.3:18 – Be subject to your husband in a way that will please God.

Col.3:19 – Don't be bitter against your wife! What do you do with your wife and children at home, do you sing together? What do you do with your time? Use it to do good things, so that you will not give room to the devil. Stop bringing people's fault to your table, to your discussion but do something good, something nice instead. Try to create a good atmosphere in your house and around you. Let us sing and joyfully do something good, it is not everytime we have to shout and shout.

1.Peter 3:1ff – You can win people to Christ without even preaching to them. If they see your character and the way you live they will be drawn to God (vs.2). Don't let your life cause unbelievers to be hardened against God and the church.

The beauty of a woman is in her heart. It is not your outward appearance you will use to show that you are a godly woman, but your character: obedient, humble, quiet, meek, submissive. If you are like that God will honour you and reward you greatly (vs.3-5). Learn to bear things if you want to get that prize. You are a daughter of Sarah when you do well (vs.6).

As a husband, don't expose your wife's weaknesses to the public! Your prayers will be hindered if you and your wife are in contention (vs. 7)

Admire that man, admire that woman God has given to you in marriage. Don't say that you will only continue to stay with him or her because of your children. In 1.Cor. 7:12-16 you can see the only reason you could be separated from your husband or wife.

In vs. 12-13 where the Bible mentions husband or wife that "believeth not" it is not only talking about those who are not saved but also about christians who do not like to do what God is saying.

1. Cor. 7:10-11 is telling us that if husband and wife separate they should remain alone and not marry another person but if they desire to be married, they should reconcile and let their marriage be restored.

Trouble not yourself, trouble not the church, but live according to the word of God from today. Don't look at the challenging part alone but look at the many good things that are coming out of your marriage and find solutions on how to settle your challenges together.