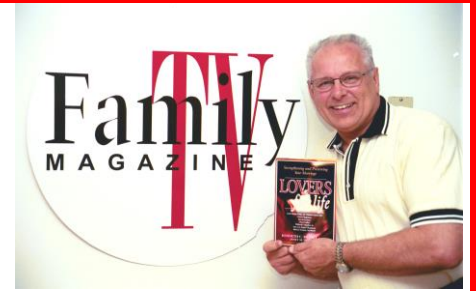


For Strengthening and Being

“LOVERS FOR LIFE”



Words from the bible about marriage and divorce from my friend Bill Bittner that shared them with me and I now share them with you.

Marriage/Divorce This information is for your review. If you have trouble or excuses for these take them up with God

Genesis 2:18,23-24 Now the Lord said, “ It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him.’ The man said, “ This is the bone of my bones and the flesh of my flesh; she shall be called ‘ women, for she was taken out of man.” For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and they will become **one flesh**.

Ezra 10:10-11 Then Ezra the priest stood up and said to them,” You have been unfaithful; you have married foreign women, adding to Israel’s guilt. Now make confession to the Lord, the God of your fathers, and do his will. Separate yourselves from the peoples around you and from your foreign wives.”

Proverbs 2:16-19 “ Wisdom “ It will save you from the adulteress, from the wayward wife with her seductive words, who has left the partner of her youth and **ignored the covenant she made before God**. For her house leads to death and her paths to the spirits of the dead. None who go to her return or attain the paths of life.

Ezekiel 16:44-45 Everyone who quotes proverbs will quote this proverb about you: “ Like mother, like daughter. “ You are a true daughter of your mother, **who despised her husband and her children**; and you are a true sister of your sisters, **who despised their husbands and their children**.

Ezekiel 44:21-23 No priest is to drink wine when he enters the inner court. **They must not marry widows or divorced women; they may marry only virgins of Israelite descent or widows of priests**. They are to teach my people the **difference between the holy and the common and show them how to distinguish between the unclean and the clean**.

Malachi 2:13-16 Another thing you do: You flood the Lord’s altar with tears. You weep and wail because he no longer pays attention to your offerings or accepts them with pleasure from your hands. You ask, “ Why?” It is because the Lord is acting as the witness between you and the wife of your youth, because you have broken faith with her, though she is your partner, **the wife of your marriage covenant**. Has not the Lord made them one? **In flesh and spirit they are his. And why one ? Because he was seeking godly offspring**. So guard yourself in your spirit with the wife of your youth.

“ **I hate divorce**,” says the Lord God of Israel, “ and I hate a man’s covering himself with violence as well as with his garment,” says the Lord Almighty. So guard yourself in your spirit, and **do not break faith**

Matthew 5:31-32 “ It has been said,’ anyone who divorces his wife must give her a certificate of divorce. **But I tell you that anyone who divorces his wife, except for marital unfaithfulness, causes her to commit adultery, and anyone who marries a women so divorced commits adultery.**”

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Mathew 19:3-9 Some Pharisees came to him to test him. They asked, “ Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife for any and every reason?” “ Haven’t you read,” he replied, “ that at the beginning the Creator made them male and female,’ and said,’ for this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh’ So they are no longer two, but one. Therefore what God has joined together, let no man separate.” “ Why then,” they asked,” did Moses command that a man give his wife a certificate of divorce and send her away?” Jesus replied,” Moses permitted you to divorce your wives because your hearts were hard. But it was not this way from the beginning. I tell you that anyone who divorces his wife, except for marital unfaithfulness, and marries other women commits adultery.”

Mark 10:2-12 Some Pharisees came and tested him by asking ,” Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?” “What did Moses command you?” he replied. They said, “Moses permitted a man to write a certificate of divorce and send her away” “It was because your hearts were hard that Moses wrote you this law” Jesus replied. “But at the beginning of creation God made them male and female. For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh. So they are no longer two but one. Therefore what God has joined together, let no man separate.” When they were in the house again, the disciples asked Jesus about this. He answered, “ Anyone who divorces his wife and marries other women commits adultery against her. And if she divorces her husband and marries another man, she commits adultery.”

Luke 16:18 Anyone who divorces his wife and marries another woman commits adultery, and the man who marries a divorced woman commits adultery

Romans 7:1-3 Do you not know, brothers – for I am speaking to men who know the law – that the law has authority over a man as long as he lives? For example, by law a married women is bound to her husband as long as he is alive, but if her husband dies, she is released from the law of marriage. So then if she marries another man while her husband is alive, she is called an adulterous. But if her husband dies, she is released from the law and is not an adulterous, even though she marries another man.

1 Corinthians 7:1-16 Now for the matters you wrote about: It is good for a man not to marry. But since there is so much immorality, each man should have his own wife, and each woman her own husband. The husband should fulfill his marital duty to his wife, and likewise the wife to her husband. The wife’s body does not belong to her alone but also to her husband. In the same way, the husband’s body does not belong to him alone but also to his wife. Do not deprive each other except by mutual consent and for a time, so that you may devote yourselves to prayer. Then come together again so that Satan will not tempt you because of your lack of self-control. I say this as a concession, not as a command. I wish that all men were as I am. But each man has his own gift from God; one has this gift, another has that. Now to the unmarried and the widows I say: It is good for them to stay unmarried, as I am. But if they cannot control themselves, they should marry, for it is better to marry than to burn with passion. To the married I give this command (not I, but the Lord) A wife must not separate from her husband. But if she does, she must remain unmarried or else be reconciled to her husband. And a husband must not divorce his wife. To the rest I say this (I, not the Lord): If any brother has a wife who is not a believer and she is willing to live with him, he must not divorce her. And if a woman has a husband who is not a believer and he is willing to live with her, she must not divorce him. For the unbelieving husband has been sanctified through his wife, and the unbelieving wife has been sanctified through her believing husband. Otherwise your children would be unclean, but as it is,

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they are holy. But if the unbeliever leaves, let him do so. A believing man or woman is not bound in such circumstances; God has called us to live in peace. How do you know, wife, whether you will save your husband? Or, how do you know, husband, whether you will save your wife?

1 Corinthians 7:25-40 Now about virgins: I have no command from the Lord, but I give judgment as one who by the Lord's mercy is trustworthy. Because of the present crisis, I think that it is good for you to remain as you are. Are you married? Do not seek a divorce. Are you unmarried? Do not look for a wife. But if you do marry, you have not sinned; and if a virgin marries, she has not sinned. But those who marry will face many troubles in this life, and I want to spare you this. What I mean, brothers, is that the time is short. From now on those who have wives should live as if they had none; those who mourn, as if they did not; those who are happy, as if they were not; those who buy something, as if it were not theirs to keep; those who use the things of the world, as if not engrossed in them. For this world in its present form is passing away. I would like you to be free from concern. An unmarried man is concerned about the Lord's affairs – how he can please the Lord. But a married man is concerned about the affairs of this world-how he can please his wife – and his interest are divided. An unmarried woman or virgin is concerned about the Lord's affairs: Her aim is to be devoted to the Lord in both body and spirit. But a married woman is concerned about the affairs of this world – how she can please her husband. I am saying this for your own good, not to restrict you, but that you may live in a right way in undivided devotion to the Lord. If anyone thinks he is acting improperly toward the virgin he is engaged to, and if she is getting along in years and he feels he ought to marry, he should do as he wants. He is not sinning. They should get married. But the man who has settled the matter in his own mind, who is under no compulsion but has control over his own will, and who has made up his mind not to marry the virgin – this man also does the right thing. So then, he who marries the virgin does right, but he who does not marry her does even better. **A woman is bound to her husband as long as he lives.** But if her husband dies, she is free to marry anyone she wishes, **but he must belong to the Lord.** In my judgment, she is happier if she stays as she is – and I think that I too have the Spirit of God

Ephesians 5:22-32 Wives, submit to your husband's as to the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife as Christ is the head of the church, his body, of which he is Savior. Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit to their husbands in everything. Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless. **In this way husbands ought to love their wives as their own bodies.** He who loves his wife loves himself. After all, no one ever hated his own body, but he feeds and cares for it, just as Christ does the church – for we are members of his body. “ For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and **the two will become one flesh.**” **This is a profound mystery** – but I am talking about Christ and the church. However, each one of you also must love his wife as he loves himself, and the wife must respect her husband.

Colossians 3:18-21 Wives, submit to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord. Husbands, love your wives and do not be harsh with them.

1 Timothy 5:14 So I counsel younger widows to marry, to have children, to manage their homes and to give the enemy no opportunity for slander. Some have in fact already turned away to follow Satan.

Hebrews 13:4 **Marriage should be honored by all, and the marriage bed kept pure, for God will judge the adulterer and all the sexually immoral.**

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1 Peter: 3:1-7 Wives, in the same way be submissive to your husband's so that, if any of them do not believe the word, they may be won over without talk by the behavior of their wives, when they see the purity and reverence of your lives. Your beauty should not come from outward adornment, such as braided hair and the wearing of gold jewelry and fine clothes. Instead, it should be that of your inner self, the unfading beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is of great worth in God's sight. For this is the way the holy women of the past who put their hope in God used to make themselves beautiful. They were submissive to their husbands, like Sarah, who obeyed Abraham and called him her master. You are her daughters if you do what is right and do not give way to fear. Husbands, in the same way be considerate as you live with your wives, and treat them with respect as the weaker partner and as heirs with you of the gracious gift of life, **so that nothing will hinder your prayers.**