KINGDOM KEYS *for* SUCCESSFUL *Relationships*

RICHARD MUWANGUZI

Kingdom Keys for Successful Relationships

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Dedication

This life-changing book is profoundly dedicated to my beautiful, Original, Splendid, Stunning Wife; **Martha Muwanguzi** and my daughter **Princess Janny Muwanguzi.**

I also dedicate this book to my siblings; Jude Wetaka, Kevin Mafabi and Becky Muduwa.

To the International Founding Board Executive of **Kingdom Glory Faith Ministries**; Janny and Drew Varland, Pr. Lee and Robyn McElfresh, Bronwyn and Matt Monger.

Worthy to dedicate the book too is to **Kingdom Glory Faith Ministries** Family all over the world.

Acknowledgment

I believe in my heart that a book is never written by an author unless it is first written on the heart and mind of the author by thousands of contributors and influencers in his or her life and then penned through a concerted effort of many people, who through a corporate process, deliver a product that millions can benefit from. Therefore, it is impossible for any author to deserve full credit for any work accomplished.

No achievement in life is without the supportive effort of many gifted people, known and unknown, dead and living who willingly and passionately dedicate themselves to excellence and quality. This book is no different. All we are on this human expedition to eternity is the sum total of what we have learned from those who have shared their thoughts with us. I am immortally gratefully to the many teachers through the years who have given me the information, inspiration, and revelations to help me successfully navigate and traverse the uncertain waters of life. Thank you all for making me who I have become.

This work is a living testimony to this cooperation and confirms the reality that we are a sum of total of all the contributions made to our lives by the people we have had the privilege to encounter on the journey of life.

Here are some of the men and women, who, through their effective living, modifications instructions, corrections, challenges, commitment and example, agitated and stirred gifts within me that I did not know I had:

I am deeply grateful to my guru, whose life of service was such a challenge to me that every of his discourse and teaching I enjoyed supplied me with inspiration and many useful ideas about relationship.

Kingdom Glory Faith Ministries International Board adherents; Janny and Drew Varland; Bronwyn and Matt Monger; Pr. Lee and Robyn were so enthusiastic about my writing this book, that I felt an awe-inspiring obligation to follow the guidance and commitment of their enthusiasm and to serve the Lord in this veneration.

Ido acknowledge my editors and cover designers, without whose intervention the book would have died in "Nursery Ward". They discovered it at the editors Ward and nurtured it to maturity.

Last, but far from least- is my deep sense of gratitude to God my manufacturer, for the strength and wisdom He gave me in writing this book. Thumb up Daddy.

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FOREWORD

I met Pr. Muwanguzi at a crusade in Mbale on 21st June of 2017. I sat for coffee one morning at Mbale Resort Hotel, randomly setting at a table next to his. As he engaged me in conversation, I knew that this was the answer to a prayer and the beginning of an amazing friendship. Not really even a friendship per-say but a mentor-mentee relationship. And mind you he was a 28-year-old man mentoring a 58-year-old woman from the USA!

Let me back up and say that on the plane from USA to East Africa for my missionary trip, I prayed to God that He would give me a divine connection with someone GREAT in Africa. I was blowing all the sojourns out of my plans on this trip and asking God to give me a divine connection with someone who was going to be a regent of change in his own neighborhood, community and for the world.

"*Let me be built up by an African rather than the other way around"* was my prayer. *"Let me humble myself and see the*

Glory of GOD in the Ugandan citizens this time around, Lord."

God answered my prayer by allowing me to meet Richard Muwanguzi. He started to talk of things like purpose, the 'Re's' of GOD (you'll have to ask him), the principles of kingdom living, Illegal vs legal residents of heaven, Passports to living, kingdom and God's government in Heaven. I tell you it was like honey to my soul. A soothing balm to my spirit.

I couldn't believe I was in the presence of such an amazing teacher! I truly was learning right then and there about things I had never heard before about God and Heaven. An hour passed and we both realized we were late for other engagements and guess what? He was going to the same event I was and was one of my interpreters for the evening! Now that was God's amazing creative glory on full pageant just in that one encounter!

Headlong to 2019 and Mr. Muwanguzi is not just my teacher, but my friend, chum and companion in advancing the Kingdom Glory Faith Ministries into the USA. We have joined efforts to bring these valuable books back to America.

Have your Bibles (and a dictionary) with you as you go through this book. His vocabulary is stellar. It has become an integral part of our group study to increase our own vocabulary by looking up words we have never heard of here in the USA!

I did ask him one day about his amazing vocabulary and he said "I exceedingly paid, with struggle, for every word I learned in school, so I am going to use them regularly and often!" AH HA! Another reason I call him my teacher!

God, you are amazing and so creative as to the breadth, depth, height, and width of your Glory! From two ends of the world you bring two people together that have hearts that beat the same for your kingdom. I declare and decree as a daughter of Kingdom royalty that we shall experience kingdom living here on earth in your name. I am always in Awe of You my God. In Expansion of YOUR KINGDOM, we serve together, AMEN!

Jannette Varland

Meeker Colorado, USA

International Founding Board Associate of KGFM in the United States of America.

Introduction

A pastor was struggling to prepare his sermon and didn't want to be bothered by his five-year-old daughter, so he removed a map of the world from his study, tore it into pieces and gave it to her to assemble with the promise that he would answer all her questions and play with her when she was done. He knew she would never be able to fix it. To his amazement, in less than five minutes, she returned to him in his study with the map in perfect shape, every continent and every country in its place. The surprised father asked, "Honey, you don't know anything about geography, so how did you fix the world so easily and quickly?

The five-year-old girl smiled sweetly and replied, "The picture of Jesus was at the back of the map and I knew that if I have Jesus in the right place, the whole world would be in perfect shape." That was just the right motivation and inspiration the Pastor needed for his discourse. He thanked his daughter and prepared a powerful sermon

on the subject ***"Fix your world by placing Jesus at the right place."*** Just place Jesus in his rightful place and your relationship, marriage and family will be in order.

Many people enter into marriage with wrong reasons or intentions and long enough, they discover that things don't work as they expected. A relationship is about being with someone who makes you happy in ways that no one else can.

Place Jesus in His rightful place and your relationship will be in order

A true lover is someone that sees your potential and that will push you to achieve it by all means. Go for someone who is not only proud to have you, but will also take every risk just to be with you, someone who will not love you on conditions. A relationship takes two people; not one person being faithful and another acting unmarried.

The most precious gift you can give your lover is the gift of your time and attention. This goes specifically to my fellow men: Before you start a relationship with a lady, you must ponder carefully about what you are about to do. A relationship is not something you should rush into or handle lightly. Are you ready for a connection with her? Are you emotionally, mentally and spiritually mature to cultivate her and meet her needs? Being sexually captivated to her means absolutely nothing.

It isn't a sign of likeness, love or any other thing your

mind may come up with. It may just be your hormones messing with your mind. A woman is more than her body and her sexuality. She has a life which you should be able to blend with. Can you do that? This lady has a history; can you handle it? She has a past, can you grip it? Can you handle her mistakes, failures and weaknesses? Can you handle her dreams without being intimidated and becoming jealous? She already had a life before you met her, can you fit into it and help improve her life?

Love is commitment. Are you ready to commit your life to helping her grow and become all that she was born to be, by God's grace? Is she valuable enough for you to devote a large portion of your life towards the accomplishment of her dream? Are you ready to pour your resources into making her all the Lord purposed her to be? If you are not ready, don't just bother. Before you open your mouth to say 'I love you', ask yourself if this is not just a moment of 'emotional madness'.

A woman is more than her body and her sexuality. She has a life which you should be able to blend with.

A lady needs much more than 'I love you'. She needs your commitment, your honesty and your affection. If you are not ready to make that commitment that will lead to marriage, please leave her alone in peace and stop wasting her time and resources. "I love you" means that I know your deepest secrets and do not judge you for them, asking in return that you do not judge me for mine. It means that

I care enough to fight for what we have and that I love you enough not to let go. It means thinking of you, dreaming of you, wanting and needing you constantly, and hoping you feel the same way for me.

Most people spend half of their life looking for a relationship and the second half of their life wondering if that is the right one. The truth is; know your place in people's lives. It's not Pride, its Self-Respect. Two things you don't fight for: True Love and True Friends. They Come Naturally!

Love is an ongoing debt that we owe each other, a debt that should never be paid off. Paul made this clear when he wrote to the believers in Rome, "*Let no debt remain outstanding, except the continuing debt to love one another, for he who loves his fellowman has fulfilled the law" (**Rom. 13:8**)*. If we get into the habit of thinking of ourselves as always owing a debt of love to our spouses, we will be less inclined to take offense when they say or do something that we do not like.

Here is one of my philosophies: People generally fall into one of three groups; the few who make things happen, the many who watch things happen, and the overwhelming majority who have no notion of what happens. Every person is either a creator of fact or a creature of circumstance. He either puts color into his environment, or, like a chameleon, takes color from his environment.

Stay with me as we take this quest on discovering and unlocking some of the mysteries and principles as regards to love, dating and marriage. These are some of the things I have come to learn down the line of personal walk with the Jesus I encountered in 2002. I guarantee you that you are holding in your hands the book that will not only challenge you but will change your life, as regards to God's purpose and plan for your life on earth.

Every person is either a creator of fact or a creature of circumstance. He either puts color into his environment, or, like a chameleon, takes color from his environment.

Chapter One

Single But Not Alone

Marriage can be compared to a shoe. When you wear oversize, be ready to drag it along throughout life and when you wear under-size, be ready to feel the pains throughout life.

One thing about Kingdom marriage is that you don't drop your shoe or remove it at any point, no matter how painful or how stressful it is. Now, I am not talking about this cohabiting thing some people call marriage. I am talking about Kingdom open marriage.

This is to everyone who is either married, not married or in a relationship. When you are ready to buy your own shoe, there are things I have discovered that you need to take note of. I took note of them too, before I said "I do" to my beautiful wife Martha.

1. **Physical Appearance.**

Do not look for the beautiful ones, the nice ones or the cheap ones. Look for the one that is your size. Not every handsome, wealthy or intelligent guy is for you and not every beautiful woman is for you brothers. Look for the one that is meant for you, the one that aligns with your values and beliefs, the one who you meet at your life's journey. It is important to know where you're going in life before you think of getting a wife. I will come to that in details later.

2. **Position.**

All sizes of shoes are not placed in the same place. There is a place for courtyard shoes, laced up shoes, sport footwear, snickers etc. We have Children sizes, young people's sizes and the adult sizes. Know where to get your own shoe. Your size cannot be everywhere my brother; your type cannot be everywhere my sister. You cannot be a Christian, and be looking for a wife material at a night club. Your wife or husband can't just be everywhere. Stick to your values and therein you shall find someone like you. But when your values are not defined, anyone can just match you.

You cannot be a Christian, and be looking for a wife material at a night club. Your wife or husband can't just be everywhere.

Discover yourself and define your values. You do not

prepare for wedding but you prepare for marriage. Ladies these days get so enthused when they attend a wedding party and they will quickly want to say yes to any guy who is promising even air.

3. Perception.

In this kind of shoe purchasing enterprise, you are not permitted to try the shoe before you buy it. This is why it is important to seek guidance and counseling, from people who have bought shoes before or are into the business of directing people to the right shoes (Pastors, relationship coaches and gurus). And most importantly to avoid much time wasting, simply consult the shoe manufacturer to tell you your size (God Almighty).

Wait. It is not just the wedding. The wedding is just one day. After the wedding; comes marriage.

Finally, it is not something you rush to the market and just pick a shoe because you like or can purchase it. Ask questions: Where is this shoe made from? (***Background***). What is the size? (***Values***). How much? (***His/her interest***). How long will it last? (***His/her Character***). Who made it? (***Is she/he of the same faith? this is compatibility***). Will it match me? (***This is whether he/she loves you and accepts you the way you are***)

Beloved, remember many are dragging their foot and they would hardly reach their destinies, many are feeling endless pains and wish they could pull off the shoes but

no way! I have seen people with beautiful shoes and when they show you their foot, you will see scars. You are meant to enjoy the shoe but not to endure it.

It is not about the physical, it is the size. You can't know the size from afar. So come close, build a bond first but remember ***'you are not permitted to try it before you buy it'***.

And for those who have purchased the wrong shoes, you can still make it your size again if you would consult the manufacturer and let Him have His way in your marriage.

So come close, build a bond first but remember 'you are not permitted to try it before you buy it'.

Unexpected endings

Unexpected endings can be extremely distressful and devastating. The unexpected ending of relationships through divorce or rejection; the unexpected loss of influence, wealth or property, or the unexpected ending of a dream or employment, leaves us at the door of despair.

Unexpected endings and unexpected losses force us to leave the familiar for the unfamiliar without our permission and personal preparation, and that is painful. It is painful because we only appreciate and embrace the change that we initiate - the change that only comes on our terms.

Faced with unexpected endings, we anticipate a season of loneliness, isolation, confusion and uncertainty, and we

become debilitated by the fear of letting go and moving on. We fuss, we fear and we fight but thank God we fail to stop the unexpected endings. Thank God because I've come to realize that unexpected endings often bring us unexpected blessings. Thank God because the ending of our hope often signals the beginning of God's help. Thank God because the loss of our earthly trash often signals the outpouring of divine treasure.

Joseph faced many unexpected endings, but all his unexpected endings and damages brought him enumerable unexpected blessings and rewards. Fear not and fight the urge to be bitter. Move on anyway in faith knowing that, with God, the future holds for you a greater and better promise. God will never let you lose anything that he doesn't replace with something better. May be you lost a relationship, hey! Relax! The best is coming your way. I have been where you are.

The tragedy of divorce

The word translated *divorce* in the New Testament is *apostasion*, which has an interesting meaning. The same word is used in the Greek version of the Old Testament which was available in Jesus' day, *The Septuagint*. That word in Greek means primarily "a defection;" literally, "a standing off from."You can *defect* only if you have made a commitment to something. A soldier who has enlisted or been drafted for a certain term of service and then runs away without permission is said to be a "defector."

The dictionary definition of *defect* is:

1) "Lack of something necessary for completeness; deficiency; shortcoming;"

2) "An imperfection or weakness; fault; flaw; blemish;" Or, in this usage, "to forsake a party, cause, etc."

If you notice, in Genesis, the Word did not say for a *woman* to leave her father and mother and "be glued to" her husband. It said, **for this cause should a *man*** leave his parents. Divorce is like a soldier going to the general and saying, "I don't like this. I want to be a civilian again." If a soldier in action defects, he is apt to be shot.

According to the Word, if a man takes a wife out of her parents' home, he is to chase after her in hot pursuit (another meaning for the Greek word for *cleave)*, and when he catches her, to stick to her like glue. That means no matter where she goes or what she does, he comes in behind her. His goal is to stick to her. That means they become one, for the most part, based on his efforts. Basically what all this means is that God says, "Marriage rests on the shoulders of the husband, and divorce rests on the shoulders of the husband."

Whatever happens in the home is the husband's responsibility. Please note, I did not say it is the husband's *fault* Also, note that divorce began with men. Because of that, Moses allowed bills of divorcement to protect the women of Israel. Nowhere in the Law did God make

provision for divorce. In all of the commandments, statutes, and civil regulations handed down to Moses by God, there is no provision specifically set out by God giving grounds for divorce. The only thing Moses dealt with was how to protect the helpless wife when her husband walked out on her.

Jesus' disciples understood that He was saying, "When you enter marriage, death is the only way out that God has provided. If the marriage vows are broken, it is permitted to divorce. Even then, the Lord would prefer that you stick it out.

"And, furthermore, you men are responsible for choosing a wife and for seeing to it that the marriage works."

There are certain things in this world order, which are under satanic control (2 Cor. 4:4), that God did not design. For example, your body is not designed for worry. There is no hormone in the body designed to deal with worry. That means God in His infinite wisdom never intended for you to worry. That is why people get ulcers. They are under stress and tension and worry, and hormones overproduce to deal with the situation. That burns holes in the lining of the stomach.

In other people, their minds and bodies develop the "holes," and they have nervous breakdowns, need psychiatric help,

or actually go insane. Their minds have been trying to deal with something they were not designed for. As your body was not designed for worry, so your marriage is not designed for divorce. Going through a divorce, no matter how "friendly," leaves you with a sick feeling, a trauma. You go through the same sense of loss, even if you wanted the divorce, that you would if that person died. People have gotten divorces, been forgiven for breaking vows, and gotten remarried. For the most part, they may be happy. But, somewhere inside, there is still a sick feeling that only the resurrection will totally deal with.

Marriage is not all about rings. It is about blood covenant. Two men cannot consummate a marriage. Because there is no blood covenant. That is why the Bible talks about the blood so much. It is evident that God cut the covenant or entered into a covenant with Adam at the very beginning of humanity. The reason I believe that, is because there isn't a primitive people in the world, as far as you and I know, that has not practiced the blood covenant in some form; showing that it had a God-given foundation and so man has practiced the covenant through all the ages.

In Africa, if one was to break the covenant, his own mother or wife, or his nearest relatives would seek his death, would turn him over to the hands of the avenger for destruction. No man can live in Africa who breaks the covenant. He curses the very ground he walks on.

The vilest enemies become trusted friends as soon as the

covenant is cut. No man takes advantage of the covenant or breaks it. It is so sacred that the children to the third and fourth generations revere it and keep it. In other words, it is a long-lasting and perpetual covenant, indissoluble, a covenant that cannot be annulled.

Blood is the foundation of life and death. Every female comes to the planet earth locked up. And she is locked up with a small skin, the Doctors say and the only way to open the female is to spill blood over yourself and her. That is why sex is only delegated to marriage.

When I and my wife got married, on 12th November 2016, on our wedding night that same day, at five-star Mbale Resort Hotel, as we consummated our marriage with sex, blood on both of us was spilled and God in heaven marked that as "Covenant". Therefore, the only way to cut the old covenant is by cutting the new one. For details about covenant, get it in my other book; The power of covenant.

Marriage is not all about rings. It is about blood covenant.

Self-Love and Self-Hatred

The most important person that you need first is yourself. Self-hatred is probably the greatest single problem in human society, regardless of culture. Years of research, study, and experience in the fields of human psychology and behavior have revealed that self-hatred lies at the heart of the vast majority of mental, emotional, and psychological problems. Many people have trouble living with others

because they have trouble living with themselves. They find it hard either to give love or to receive love from others because they cannot love themselves.

Unfortunately, the problem of self-hatred is not limited to secular culture or the world of the mentally ill or emotionally unstable. The same plague afflicts many followers of Christ as well. Many of us who are believers have an inferiority complex under which we are constantly putting ourselves down, saying negative things about ourselves, and denying our gifts, talents, and abilities. This sense of inferiority is the product of centuries of teaching in the Church that says it is wrong for us to love ourselves. Such teaching equates self-deprecation with humility, when in reality the two are not the same at all.

Self-deprecation says, "*I am nothing. I am worthless, useless, with nothing of value to give to anyone.*" Humility, on the other hand, is simply believing and accepting what God says about us, and God says that we are worthless.

Many people have trouble living with others because they have trouble living with themselves.

It is very good to listen to others. It is very wise to seek advice from others. But it is very dangerous to ignore your own self (Singleness). It is very dangerous to refuse to pay attention to your heart.

Learn to be alone but not lonely

Serenity with being alone involves learning how to be fulfilled in your singleness. A truly single person is one who is comprehensive physically, emotionally, spiritually, and intellectually without dependence upon anyone else. Successful singles find their personal identity and sense of wholeness within themselves and in relationship with God. Because they are complete within themselves, only whole individuals are fully comfortable being alone. They can flourish and succeed whether or not they are involved in a relationship.

For such people a relationship is an added blessing; it is icing on the cake. A truly single person is one who is complete physically, emotionally, spiritually, and intellectually without dependence upon anyone else. A whole person is one who has, first of all, a healthy self-concept. Many people struggle with feelings of subsidiarity and self-hatred. Such a person will have difficulties in any relationship. Healthy self-love is critically important to personal wholeness because it affects every other relationship.

Someone once asked Jesus what was the greatest commandment of all. Jesus replied:

"Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: 'Love

your neighbor as yourself.' All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments" (**Matt 22:37-40,** emphasis added).

Our first responsibility is to love God with our whole being. Because He first loved us, we are able to love Him and, in turn, love ourselves in the sense of having a positive self-image as someone who is loved and treasured by God. If we do not love ourselves, it will be difficult for us to love others, or even to relate to them properly. Secondly, a whole person has a clear and solid faith. When we know what we believe and why we believe it, when we know what the Word of God says and are committed to obeying it, and when we have a good grasp of God's standards for our personal lives and are determined to live by them, we are well on our way to wholeness. We can love our neighbor only to the same extent that we love ourselves. People who do not love themselves cannot truly love anybody else.

Please understand that I am not referring to a narcissistic and egotistical self-love that struts around with an inflated opinion of itself while looking down its nose at everybody else. By *"loving ourselves"* I mean having a positive and optimistic self-image and a healthy sense of self-worth based on a proper understanding of our place in the love of God and in relationship to God and others.

We can love our neighbor only to the same extent that we love ourselves. People who do not love themselves cannot truly love anybody else.

Why should we love ourselves? What reason do we have? The answer lies in the heart and purpose of God. God created us in His image and likeness, the greatest act and crowning glory of all His creative work, and He pronounced it "good." Sin marred and distorted that image in us. Nevertheless, we were still so important to God and of such great worth to Him that He sent His Son to pay for our sin on the cross so we could be restored to Him. Through Christ, God recreated us in His image—He remade us, as it were—and again pronounced it "good." We should love ourselves, not in a conceited manner, but simply by accepting for ourselves the value that God Himself places on us.

Another apropos principle of wholeness is growing one's own roots. To grow your own roots means to have your focus of motivation and control within yourself rather than in other people. Many people allow others to rheostat their lives. They dress to please other people, they buy what others are buying, and they think the way others think. Uncertain and uncomfortable with their own thoughts and ideas, they simply concede to the thoughts and ideas of others. Single people are self-motivated, internally-directed, comfortable with themselves, and rooted firmly enough to stand strong and confident in the values they

live by, even if at times they seem to be standing alone. Being alone as a single person has many advantages, especially for a believer. One of the greatest of these is the opportunity to give undivided attention to the pursuit of spiritual growth and a deep relationship with the Lord. Married people, even committed believers, must divide their time and attention between spiritual pursuits and the everyday demands and challenges of married life. I write this with an incredible experience. In his first letter to the believers in Corinth, Paul made that very point in describing the value of singleness:

"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.… 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 interests 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**" (1 Cor. 7:26-28;32-35).**

Paul's counsel to singles is to use this time in your life to pursue "the Lord's affairs," to grow in "undivided devotion" to Him. Unregulated by the ties of marriage or other serious relationships, single people are free to concern themselves wholly with the things of God. Make the most of this time in your life. Learn to grow deep with God and to love Him by yourself first. Don't be in a rush to get into a relationship. Get your spiritual roots firmly embedded in God now, because once you get seriously involved with another person, particularly in a marriage relationship, your time and attention will be divided between that person and your devotion and service to God.

Work to develop yourself fully as a single person. Learn to be like Adam; get completely lost in God today. Become so consumed by God that He will have to interrupt you to bring another person into your life. Think of singleness as a blessing and a perfect opportunity for character development. You'll have fewer diversions, a single-minded commitment, and a more open attitude because you will not be pressured by the need to please anyone except God. Become so consumed by God that He will have to interrupt you to bring another person into your life.

Learn to be like Adam; get completely lost in God today. Become so consumed by God that He will have to interrupt you to bring another person into your life.

Learn to be an asset first. You should be preoccupied with preparing yourself for whomever God is preparing for you. I have seen most people are so busy looking for the one God has prepared for them that they fail to prepare themselves for that person. Don't make that mistake. Use this time in life to prepare yourself.

True singleness is a sign of spiritual and emotional maturity. When you can be alone and enjoy it, you are a self-confident and self-aware person. You are well adjusted, not needing other people's approval to feel okay about yourself. It means that you have your act calm and are ready for a deeper relationship. You have discovered and accepted who you are and can now truly give and share yourself with others. You are ready to relate meritoriously and effectively.

Chapter Two

What is Love

It is impossible to simply define love. Love is too large, too deep to be fully understood, measured or defined within the framework of words. Here is a definition I thought works for me about love:

"Love is a will or a choice or a decision or a judgment or a promise to extend yourself for the purpose of cultivating, nurturing and evolving another person's physical, social, economic, intellectual and spiritual growth."

Most young people dream of getting married someday like I did and undeniably, they want a happy and successful marriage. But such a marriage is not easy to come by. There are certain specific ingredients in a happy marriage.

Types of love

In a happy marriage, there are three kinds of love. Actually, there are four types of love but for this particular contest of a happy marriage, I will reinforce on the three.

1. **Agape love**

The word "agape" is a Greek word which is used to describe a special kind of love. There is no single word in English language for this kind of love. This is enough to explain why we often use this Greek word.

Agape love is that love which gives and sacrifices for the highest good of another person.

Agape love has two major features. It is completely unselfish in the way that it seeks that which is best for the one it loves and it is committed love as it keeps on loving regardless of what happens.

Agape love is not just a wonderful feeling; it is a definite choice of the will. One of the amazing things about agape love is that: When you choose to love a person unselfishly and act lovingly toward them, in time you will have the feeling of love toward them.

God has given us a wonderful place in which we learn agape love. That place is the home. It is so because the home is one of the places we never choose. If God gave you chance to choose the country, the father, the mother,

the brothers or sisters you would like to have, I guess most of us would not choose where we are right now or whoever we have.

If you are living at a home, God wants you to begin to show unselfish love to the other members of your family. You don't have to wait until you feel love toward the others in your family. You just have to choose to love them and begin acting unselfishly toward them. This is excellent and explicit training for marriage.

Any girl or guy can act lovingly toward someone that he or she is going to or planning to marry. It is in their interest to do so. But once they are married and the routine of daily living sets in, their basic nature will express itself. If they are selfish and self-centered in their present family situation, they will be the same way in their marriage.

One of the grave mistakes a young person can ever make is to get married because they cannot stand to live at home. But you see, until you learn to live at home, accepting and loving the other members of your family the way they are, you are not ready for marriage and if you go for it, I guarantee you that you will fail. Period!

Agape love is not just a wonderful feeling; it is a definite choice of the will.

Before considering marriage, you need to know that you have agape love for the special person and that he or she

has the same kind of love for you. I need you to understand that a happy marriage is not a marriage between two perfect people who just happened to meet each other and got married. There is no such stuff as perfect people.

The only and only perfect person who ever lived is Jesus Christ, the son of the living God. And the only perfect mate exists in your head. I have come to a supposition that God does not give a man, the woman he wants. The perfect woman exists in your head. All that God gives you is a raw material. Your work as a man is to cultivate and make the raw material the one in your head. Therefore, marriage and not just marriage but a happy marriage is between two imperfect people who see each other perfectly and love each other with unselfish, committed love.

Dr. Myles once said, "Marriage is two imperfect people committing themselves to a perfect institution, by making perfect vows from imperfect lips before a perfect God". Agape love is not blind-it sees the faults of the other person, but it covers them with love.

Agape refers to divine love, the love God has for His people as well as the love His people give back to Him. It is also the kind of love that the people of God are supposed to have toward one another. Unlike *phileo* and *storge*, as we shall see later, *agape* carries no obligation, holds no expectations, and lays down no conditions. *Agape* is unconditional love. Unlike *eros,* which is the epitome of selfishness, agape acts first and foremost for the good

and welfare of another. Rather than self-serving and egotistical, agape is self-giving, a sacrificial love that pours itself out for the sake of someone else.

The greatest example of *agape* in action was when Jesus Christ, the sinless Son of God, poured out His life on the cross for the sake of sinners (which includes all of us) that they might become children of God. This truth is encapsulated in one of the most well -known verses in the Bible:

"For God so loved [agape] the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life" ***(John. 3:16)***

God alone is the source of agape. Apart from Him it cannot be known. He has revealed it through Jesus Christ, and gives it freely to all who become His children by faith—who believe in and trust in Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord—who then pass it on to others. God loves all people in the world with divine agape, but only those who are of the community of believers know that love by personal experience. To the world at large, agape is an unknown quantity.

One of the best illustrations of the agape relationship between God and His people is found in the New Testament Book of First John:

"How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are! The

reason the world does not know us is that it did not know Him… This is the message you heard from the beginning: We should love one another…We know that we have passed from death to life, because we love our brothers. Anyone who does not love remains in death…This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down His life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers. If anyone has material possessions and sees his brother in need but has no pity on him, how can the love of God be in him? Dear children, let us not love with words or tongue but with actions and in truth" ***(1 John 3:1, 11, 14, 16-18).***

"Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love. This is how God showed His love among us: He sent His one and only Son into the world that we might live through Him. This is love: not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and His love is made complete in us" ***(1 John 4:7-12).***

These verses help us understand several important truths about agape. ***First***, *agape is not physical, somatic or chemical, nor is it an emotion or a philosophy.* Agape is a Person. First ***John 4:8b*** says, "*God is love*." When we know agape, we know the Person who embodies it. As the Son of the God who is love, Jesus Christ was agape in human flesh.

Second, *agape is oneness*. All those who know agape are one

with God and one with each other in heart and spirit. Literally speaking, agape means that God became one with us. In Christ He took on our low estate, becoming like us so that He could make us like Him.

Literally speaking, AGAPE means that God became one with us.

Third, *agape is others-conscious, not self-conscious*. Agape is constantly watching out first for the welfare of others, looking continually for opportunities to give. True love is not complete until it gives itself.

Fourth, *agape is self-initiating*. Agape always takes responsibility. It does not wait for others to act first. **Romans 5:8** says, "*But God demonstrates His own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us*." Agape is proactive. It acts whether or not anyone else responds or reciprocates. Jesus said, "*Do to others as you would have them do to you*" ***(Luke. 6:31).*** That's just what agape does. Agape takes the initiative.

Finally*, agape is a choice*. It is based not on emotion but on deliberate decision. The Bible plainly states that God loves us but it never tells us why He loves us. There is no "why." God loves us because He is love and it is His nature to love. God loves us because He has chosen to do so. His love is without discrimination. Agape does not choose who to love, it chooses simply to love. It does not matter who the object is.

Because it is a decision—a deliberate choice— agape is constant. Unlike emotion-based "love," agape never changes.

Agape is the only "true love" in the world, and the foundation for everything else we sometimes call love. Correctly understood and exercised in the proper environment, *phileo, storge*, and *eros* can all be legitimate and beautiful expressions of *agape*, but not one of them by itself is a sufficient base upon which to build a meaningful and lasting long- term relationship. Only agape is sufficient for that.

Understanding agape is the key to understanding the secrets of the human heart. To do so we need to consider several facets of this glittering jewel that is agape: God's love for us, our love for God, our love for ourselves, and our love for others, particularly as it relates to our spouse or potential spouse.

The other thing is; Agape love is not just for marriage. We need to develop this love towards every individual. Every person is the object of God's love. Every individual is exceedingly precious to God. His love includes all people and ours should also. God gave us the perfect example of agape love. He gave his son to die for us.

"For God so loved [agape] the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." ***[John 3:16]***

*"But God commends his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us." [**Romans 5:8]***

2. **Phileo love. (Friendship love).**

This is the warm love and affection we have for good friends-people whom we like and enjoy. Taking its root meaning from the related word *philos*, which means "friend," *phileo* is the most general term in Greek for love. It refers to the love that one has for a friend or acquaintance. *Phileo* is love on the level of casual friendship, the affection we have for someone we are familiar with. Because of its general and casual nature, *phileo* is not the kind of love you need to get married. Marriage requires a deeper, more focused love than *phileo* provides. If a married couple feel the same toward each other as they do toward their casual friends, their marriage is headed for trouble.

Phileo is a common experience for all of us because we are social creatures by nature. We are naturally attracted to other people who share similar interests with us or in whom we find a kindred spirit. True friendship is a spice of life. A friend is someone with whom we can share our deepest thoughts and our inmost selves, often more so than we can with family members. We all need the nourishment of meaningful relationships with a few really good friends. *Phileo* describes that kind of relationship. True friendship is a spice of life.

As positive and beneficial to our lives as this friendship

love is, however, *phileo* does not qualify as the highest and deepest form of love. As a matter of fact, *phileo* often develops certain characteristics that can create problems in the relationship if we are not careful. One of these is a sense of obligation. Because it is based so frequently on mutual attraction and similarities, *phileo* can easily become a relationship of "*you scratch my back and I'll scratch yours.*" We feel obligated to respond to each other because of the relationship.

Another common characteristic of *phileo* is that it tends to focus on personalities and physical attraction. This is natural and there is nothing wrong with it as long as we don't confuse it with "true love." Personality traits and physical characteristics change over time, so they alone are not reliable factors upon which to base a permanent, long-term relationship.

This emphasis on personality and physical attraction often results in a *phileo* relationship that is based on mutual compatibility. One reason friendships develop is because the people involved feel that they are compatible with each other to some degree or another. This is fine for a casual friendship, but many people look at "compatibility" as a criterion for a potential spouse. The main problem with that idea is that two people in a long-term relationship who are "compatible," or very much alike, may feel that they are competing with each other, which can lead to contention.

In my experience, the most successful relationships usually involve two people who are either opposites or at least very different from each other. Because of their differences they balance each other out, complementing and adding to each other. With relationships as with magnets, it is true that opposites attract.

With these kinds of criteria, *phileo* tends to be a "conditional" love: As long as certain conditions exist, the relationship exists. If those conditions change, so does the relationship. Conditions in a relationship create expectations, and expectations inevitably result in disappointment. This is why a conditional relationship is insufficient for building a long-term commitment such as marriage. Spouses should certainly be each other's best friend—they should have a *phileo* characterized by tender affection—but more than that is needed to sustain their relationship over the long term.

Christians should develop unselfish agape love for all people, but we cannot be close friends to all people. To have a happy and successful marriage, you need friendship love for your mate so that you enjoy being together, talking and sharing things with each other. A marriage without respect and tender affection between husband and wife will be unsatisfactorily, even if there is a lot of passion in the bedroom.

3. **Storge Love: (The Family love)**

Closely related to *phileo*, but more close-knit, *storge* is the word the Greeks used to refer to the love of family relationships. *Storge* describes the tender affection of parents toward their children and that of children toward their parents. It also takes in the affectionate or close feelings that normally exist between siblings and toward members of one's extended family: grandparents, cousins, aunts, uncles, nieces, and nephews.

Storge is more close-knit than *phileo* because *storge* has to do with family, and family implies relationship. That is precisely where the key danger lies with this kind of love. Because of the family relationship, we assume that we love our parents and our siblings and that they love us. We take that love for granted; after all, we are family, aren't we? Although most of the time that love is genuine, it is still a dangerous assumption. The problem is that being family does not guarantee relationship. Being related by blood does not automatically lead to friendship.

Consider your own relationships, both inside and outside your family. Who are you closest to? Who do you share your most intimate and personal thoughts and feelings with? Who knows you—the real you— better than anyone else? Is it a family member, or a friend? If we are honest, most of us will admit that we are closer to a friend than we are to members of our own family.

Where parents or siblings are concerned, we assume relationship and love because we're family. If someone were to ask you, "Do you love your parents?" you would probably respond automatically with, "Of course I do." If your questioner then asked, "Why?" you might answer, "Well…because they are my parents." That's the whole point. Even though our love for our parents and our siblings is real, there is still an underlying sense that we love them because we are supposed to. When- ever an unloving feeling arises in us toward any family member, a feeling of guilt usually arises with it. We don't feel loving, yet at the same time we feel that we should.

From this perspective, then, *storge* is similar to *phileo* in that it can easily foster a sense of obligation. We love, not because we want to but because we have to. Obligation produces pressure, pressure produces stress, and sustained stress endangers any relationship. If we are involved in such a conditional relationship we feel guilty every time we fail to live up to our obligation, and angry, bitter, or resentful when other people fail to live up to theirs. Once again, as with *phileo*, we are back to expectations and conditions.

The love of family represented by *storge* is not limited to blood relations. It is quite common for people in the Church—those who believe in and follow Christ as Savior and Lord—to refer to themselves collectively as members of the "family" of God and to regard each other

as brothers and sisters in the Lord. This view is entirely consistent with the teaching of God's Word. In ***Galatians 6:10*** Paul speaks of "*the family of believers*." ***Hebrews 2:11*** says that all who are "*made holy*" by Jesus are His brothers and members of His family. In ***1 Peter 4:17***, Peter refers to believers as "*the family of God*."

Because of this sense of family, communities of believers face the same temptations as "blood" families do—presumptuously assuming relationship, allowing familiarity to cause them to take each other for granted, and developing a mind-set of obligation. In this regard it would be helpful for believers to think of each other not only as family, but also as friends, thus opening the way for greater intimacy and deeper relationships.

Despite the risk of developing a mind-set motivated by a sense of obligation, *storge* is nonetheless an important and beneficial dynamic in human experience, both in "blood" families and the family of believers. Love of family is fundamental to the peace and stability of any society. The family is the basic building block of society, and if families fall apart, society will soon follow, then followed by communities, then comes the nation and finally the generation.

4. **Eros love. (Sexual love).**

This is that special, most intimate kind of love between a husband and wife.

Referring to *eros* as "sexual love" is really not very accurate because, strictly speaking, sex has nothing to do with true love. Sex can occur without love; it happens all the time. Love can exist without sex; the two are not dependent upon each other. Within the sacred and monogamous bounds of marriage as established and ordained by the Creator, sex is a warm, intimate, and beautiful expression of love, but by itself it is not love. This is where the world's belvedere has become so completely turned around.

The ancient Greeks delighted in, and in a way, even worshiped the beauty of the human body and sexuality. *Eros* was their word for sexual activity in all its forms, which they regarded as a type of love. Eros was also the name the Greeks gave to their god of love. Worship of Eros involved, among other things, ritual sex acts and prostitution.

The "god" Eros still reigns today in virtually every segment of society. Millions of people worship daily at the altar of Eros and call it love.

Within the sacred and monogamous bounds of marriage as established and ordained by the Creator, sex is a warm, intimate, and beautiful expression of love, but by itself it is not love.

In its fullest and most literal sense, the word *eros* embraces sexual longing, craving, and desire with no respect for sanctity; sensual ecstasy that leaves moderation and

proportion far behind. Another word to describe *eros* would be lust. Utterly selfish at its core, *eros* seeks to fulfill its lust at the expense of another.

Unlike true love, *eros* is completely sensual. It centers on the physical stimulation of the five senses—sight, smell, hearing, taste, and touch— and the desires and cravings aroused by those senses. Because it is physical in nature, *eros* is controlled by chemical reactions and interactions within the body. As such, it is driven completely by the flesh; whatever the flesh desires, *eros* seeks to gratify. Erotic love is emotional love, fueled by feelings, and therefore rises and falls as feelings do. True love, in contrast, is constant, neither motivated nor controlled by emotions.

A person who is driven by *eros* alone sees his or her potential partner as nothing more than a sex object, a target to conquer. It is a sad state of affairs indeed that our modern society so often encourages the view that members of the opposite sex are challenges to win or "scores" to be "made," and then calls it "love." Relationships built around *eros* last only as long as the physical attraction and desire that drew the people together in the first place.

In its selfishness, *eros* has no regard for the feelings or desires of the other person, being interested only in the personal gratification it can get from that person. *Eros* knows little and cares less of human dignity or respect. It is desire out of control, unleashed and unrestrained passion in the spirit of the modern philosophy that says,

"If it feels good, do it."

Nevertheless, having said that, it ought to be noted that we should have sexual love for only one person-the one to whom we are married. In the beginning, God created one man and one woman. These folks where committed to each other for life. This is God's design for marriage and sexual love- one man and one woman committed to each other for life.

Hear this. As wonderful as sexual love is, it can never be the foundation for a success marriage. Many couples try to build their marriage on the foundation of physical or sexual love. The marriage may last for a while, but when the storms of life come, their marriage fails. They discovered too late that you cannot build a successful marriage with sexual love as the foundation.

However, it is very paramount that these three kinds of love, besides *storge love,* come together in the right order as analyzed above. First, for a happy and successful marriage, you must have agape love-the unselfish love which desires the best for the other person. Then you need friendship love-the love that enables a husband and wife to enjoy being together.

Finally, in a happy marriage, there is satisfying sexual love. Unfortunately, and this is really unfortunate; most young people put their priority on sexual love. They rush into physical intimacy without finding out if they have agape

and friendship love for each other. It may seem more exciting but it will not work at all. If you value your future happiness like I did, stay away from physical involvement before marriage. And do not get married until you are sure that you and your future mate have agape and friendship love for each other

My wife is the happiest woman on earth. And the success of our marriage is founded on the Agape love we have for each other. I have no reason why I love her. I just love her, period. I have no "if", "Whenever", "because", "each time." And by the way, can I put it to you now that whenever the above vocabularies are found in the person who say he/she loves you, just know you are in danger. My wife is my best friend in the world. The solid foundation for the above three kinds of love is God's love. In ourselves, we cannot love other people as we should.

Chapter Three

Identifying Real Love

You may wonder why it is so important to fathom the difference between real love and a crush. The purpose is that knowing the difference can keep you from making a lifelong mistake. Each year, millions of couples walk down the aisle and solemnly commit themselves to love each other for the rest of their lives.

For some of these couples, marriage turns out to be an explicit experience. For others, it is something to be endured. But half of them, it is a disaster. In a few years, they discover that they simply cannot stand living together. The difference is that some couple base their marriage on real love while others base theirs on crush, which is false love. And the key is; the marriage based on crush will never last long.

It is not always easy to tell the difference between a crush and real love. And I think girls should read this chapter and re-read and re-read. Why? Because you are so much vulnerable. I discovered that a guy who wants a girl for a night and dumps her; and the guy who wants a girl for a lifelong relationship, all use the same expression '*I love you'*. In his book, *sex, love or infatuation: how can I know?* Dr. Ray Short gives some valuable clues which enable a person to test his romance and determine if it is the real gold of true love or the fool's gold of infatuation. Stay with me as we consider some of these clues.

1. ***What is the major attraction?***

Crush: If you are infatuated, the main interest is likely to be the physical equipment of the other person. A pretty face and a lovely figure are powerful attractions. But you see, looks can be so deceiving. They are just like wrappings around a gift box-they do not really tell you anything about what is inside. And physical beauty does not last forever.

Real love: If your love is real, your interest is in the total personality of the one you love. Of course there is a thrilling element of physical attraction, but it is only one of the many things about that person that attract you.

2. ***How many things about that person attract you?***

Crush: In a crush, the things that attract you are usually few in number, but they can be very appealing to you. A

guy may be besotted by the way his girl smiles or the sexy way she walks.

Real love: If it is real love, most of the qualities of the other person attract you. Each of us has a multitude of character traits, attitudes and interests. How many of these have you observed in the other person and how many of these do you find attractive? This is phenomenon because when the initial excitement of being married wears off, you need a lot of common interest to keep your marriage alive and well.

3. ***How did it start?***

Crush: Infatuation starts very fast. There is no such thing as real love at first sight; there can be infatuation at first sight.

Real love: Real love always starts slowly. It cannot be any other way. You have to know a person before you can love that person and that takes time-lots of time-to really know someone. Most young people who rush into marriage learn by sad experience the truth of the old saying: *Marry in haste, repent in leisure.* If you make the mistake of rushing into marriage, you will have plenty of time to be sorry afterward.

4. ***How consistent is your interest?***

Crush: In an infatuation, your interest in each other blows hot and cold. One reason for this is that your interest

grew so fast that the roots are shallow and therefore, your whole relationship is shallow.

Real love: In real love, your feelings are likely to be warm and tender instead of hot and cold, and they are more consistent. Real love grows slowly, but the roots grow deep.

5. ***How does it affect your personality?***

Crush: An infatuation has a disorganizing effect upon your personality. It makes you less efficient and less responsible. Your romantic feelings are in control of you and always walk around day dreaming. A girl may say, "I know he has his mistakes but nothing really matters except the love we have for each other." STOP! You are infatuated sister. If you go ahead and marry him, you will find out in time that those "other things" do matter very much. If he does not change to get you, he will not change to keep you.

Real love: If your love is real, the one you love will bring out your best qualities and make you want to become a better person. Each of us has a purpose why God created us. I have always loved to help people discover their purpose in life. I wrote a whole book about Purpose. You need to get it, read it thoroughly and it will save you from wasting time on earth. Life is so succinct and measurable here.

You better put it into the intended use before its

conclusions. Listen to me guys: God will never give us the mate we want. He only gives us raw materials to use. The perfect mate only exists in our heads. So the mate that God gives us is actually a raw material for us to cultivate and make her the one in our heads. That is just how it is.

I love my wife Martha with the whole of my heart, my body, my soul, my liver, my lungs, my pancreases, my brain and everything within me, not only because she is so delightful and wonderful, but because she is such an encouragement and inspiration to me to be the right kind of person. She always brings out the best in me. She picks me over when I am down, she makes a difference in my life, she offers me support in my purpose, and she always raises my spirit when I am stunned with many stuff. She is such an explicit and amazing woman. But above all, she is the most single lady I have ever met on earth and that is why I married her.

The success of our marriage is the fact that we keep on improving our singleness every day. It is a joy to be a right-single person and marry a right-single person. Singleness is a state to be pursued and not shunned. The bottom line once again is: Never get married until you are single and even though you got married, never cease improving on your singleness.

6. ***How do you see each other?***

Crush: In infatuation, your whole universe revolves

around the other person. Other relationships do not seem very important to you. You tend to neglect your family and friends. Your romantic infatuation becomes the most important thing in your life. It can become the only thing that really matters to you. Most infatuations do not last long, but the wrong things that you do when you are infatuated often have lifelong consequences. I have seen this happen to millions of my friends. I am glad God protected me from much of that.

Real love: In real love, your beloved is the most important person in the world to you, but your relationship with your family and friends continue to be important to you and you do not have to neglect them.

7. ***How do others view your relationship?***

Crush: What other people think of your beloved is an important test. If you are infatuated, the chances are that your parents and many of your friends will not approve of the relationship.

One of the dangerous things about an infatuation is that you tend to idolize the other person. You do not see any faults, because you are blindly in love. Your friends try to point out danger signals to you, but you ignore them. Your parents may lovingly warn you that you are about to make a big mistake, but you will not listen.

Real love: In real love, chances are that your parents and most of your friends will approve of the relationship. To

have God's blessings on your marriage, it is very important that you have the consent and approval of both sets of parents.

8. ***What does distance do?***

Crush: One of the best tests of a romance is the test of separation. If you are infatuated, time and distance will kill the relationship. This is particularly true if the couple has been mainly interested in each other's physical equipment. After some time, a real live somebody close by becomes more appealing than a picture of a faraway sweetheart. I got this statement from a friend of mine on social media just a few years ago. He said; "Men are like Bluetooth; he is connected to you when you are nearby, but searches for other devices when you are far away. But women are like Wi-Fi; she sees all the available devices but connects to the strong one." Does that make sense? Yeah!

Real love: In real love, absence makes your heart grow fonder of the one you love. Real love can and will survive the test of time and distance. Real love is rooted in the other person's total personality, not just their physical equipment. The time you spent together caused your personality to grow together. When you are separated, a part of you seems to be missing. Another, however, attractive, cannot fill the void in your heart.

9. ***How do quarrels affect the romance?***

Crush: In an infatuation, you quarrel often. You may do

a lot of kissing and making up, but as time goes on, the quarrel becomes more and more severe.

Real love: In real love, there will be disagreements but real love will live through them. Quarrels will become less frequent and less severe. Every couple should learn how to handle conflicts. It is far better to discuss differences openly and frankly than to allow them to smolder under the surface.

10. ***How do you refer to your relationship?***

Crush: In infatuation, you tend to think of your relationship in terms of two people-you and the one you love. When talking about activities, the words commonly used are: *I, me, my, he, her and hers*. You are thinking of yourselves as two separate persons.

Real love: In real love, the words commonly used are: *we, our, us.* You are thinking of yourselves as a unit. The clue may not seem so paramount while you are dating, but it has major significance in marriage. In an infatuation, the husband and the wife may find pleasure in pursuing separate interests than in doing things together. The husband may want to go out with the guys rather than be at home with his family. Or the wife may be more interested in her social contacts than her duties at home.

In a marriage where there is real love, husband and wife find their pleasure doing things together. Their response is often, "I do not want to go unless you can go too."

11. Are you selfish or selfless?

Crush: In infatuation, your interest in the other person is primarily selfish. A guy may date a girl who is a celebrity just to boost his ego. She may be selfish and demanding but if she is the queen of the campus or the college that makes him the king when he dates her.

Real love: In real love, you love the person for what he or she is- not for what they can do to build your ego.

12. What is your overall response?

Crush: In infatuation, your overall attitude is selfish-you are mainly concerned about what you can get out of the relationship.

Real love: Real love is unselfish, committed love. You want to do all you can to bring happiness to the other person. Your overall attitude is that of giving to the relationship and not that of getting what you can out of it.

Chapter Four

The Male-Man's Priority

The term *priority* means the man's order in creation and what this means in regard to his purpose for being. This order in which male-man was created gives us the first indication of his purpose of existence on this planet. My question to you, which was my question to me down the years, is; why did God create the male first? The answer to this is what we are getting to discuss here. And I want you to first understand that it was not because the male was better; but it was because of his purpose.

When we think about this, you discover that God really made only one human being from the soil. He never went back to the soil when He created the female. But He fashioned her from the side of the man. ***(Genesis 2:21-23).*** Only the male came directly from the earth and

this was because the male was designed by God to be the foundation of the human family. The female-man came out of the male-man rather than the earth because she was designed to rest on the male-man; to have the male-man as her support.

We often say that the family is the foundation of the society. It is very true that the family is the adhesive that holds it together. Yet God did not start to build the earthly society with a family. He began it with one single person and this single person happened to be a male-man. When I understood this, it thronged me to start documenting this book. Now, because God is the God of purpose, He planned everything before He began to create, so that when He started digging the foundation, He knew exactly what He wanted and what the completed picture would look like. But He had to start with the foundation just like you would start building your house with the foundation.

I don't think you have ever seen a contractor build a house starting with the roof nor a guy walking into an empty lot and holding up a window in the air, trying to get it to stay. You don't start with the windows. You don't start with the roof. You don't start with the rafters. Likewise, God starts like any other builder. The priority in building is what you need to do first. You start with the foundation.

God's communication to man in the Bible indicates the importance He places on building from the foundation up. ***Matthew 7:24-27;*** Jesus said; Paraphrase! "Some

of you are building on sand. Your building looks good, but I don't care how good your building looks. If your foundation is not right, there is going to be a great crash." Therefore, God does not think of foundation only in terms of concrete and water, but also in terms of people.

That is the reason why when God began to build the human race, He began by laying the foundation of the male-man. In other words, God placed the males at the bottom of the entire building of humanity. This means that the society is only as strong as its males. If the males don't learn what it means to be the strong foundation in God, the society is in trouble. That goes for Uganda, Africa, America-and the world at large. If the male neglects his responsibility or leaves a home, then you have a family built on sand. It becomes very difficult for the windows to stay intact. The rafters rock when the pressures come because the male-man is not there.

In 2003, my parents had a separation due to some marital unfaithfulness. My father; the foundation of our family, went and got married to another lady. I remember I was going to sit for my Primary Leaving Examination. Their separation greatly affected my academic performance. I took over the place of my Dad as the foundation of the family, given the fact that I was the first born in the home. That is when I faced the world and I understood how tough it is to be a male-man. I started washing cars to put bread on family table. I became a water supplier in

the entire village; I got involved in all type of off-the-cuff work that could earn me money to espouse our family. I sold chapattis, I supplied paraffin, I became a tout, I began to work in construction companies as a fore boy and this resulted into an abduction.

I was kidnapped while on my way from buying paraffin from the wholesalers in Kenya. Strange enough, all these led me to evade the true living God and joined Islam. I figured out why all these happened to me. It is because we were suffering the trauma of a missing Foundation-Dad! This is where I want to advice at the same time caution unmarried men who haven't discovered this mystery yet, not to think of marrying. Why? Your ability to produce does not make you a real man or a father at home. All men can produce but not all men can be fathers. Put it in another way; all men can source but not all men can sustain what they source.

When a male-man has cracks and faults in the sub-structure of his life, then the whole building is on shaky ground. My father had cracks and then the whole of his house was on shaky ground. But thank God that he came back to his senses, just like the prodigal son, and came back home, to rebuild the broken city of his family. I am glad he did it for the next ten years and then God called him home. (RIP).

Again, when God made the male first, He was not saying that the male is more important than the female. He

simply saying that male has a specific responsibility. He has a purpose to fulfill that is just like the foundation. Even though the foundation is important, it is not more important that the other parts of the building. Why? The foundation cannot perform all the functions itself. For example, it cannot protect the occupants from the weather. When the rain comes, the foundation cannot keep you dry-only the roof can. It is the same way with human family. The foundation is crucial, but the rest of the family is essential, also.

Now you need to remember this: The foundation is often hidden. When I was building for my mother a house, though I was involved in discussing about the foundation and watched it being dug, I cannot see it today. I walk on it every day but I cannot see it. My inability to see it does not mean that it is not there. Listen to me men; the foundation is meant to be solid, dependable, but not necessarily seen.

Many of us men need to live like the foundation we were created to be-just being there and keeping the home steady so that our wives and children can always lean on us and know that we are not going to crack. Many young boys with absentee fathers who are missing either physically or emotionally are walking in mud instead of on concrete. These young men are trying to look for foundation for their lives, but there is mud all over them, because there is just no place where they can stand on solid ground. Their foundations are missing. So when they grow up, they

will go out and try to become foundations themselves. The only problem is; they were never shown what a true foundation is. In my culture, when a boy gets circumcised, that is an initiation of crossing from boyhood to manhood.

I am praying to Almighty God to raise up some strong foundational men. Men who will stand by their wives and stand with their children and be their stabilizer. Men whose families will feel secure in their strength. It does not matter what your father was- you can be a greater foundation by becoming a man God created you to be.

Proverbs 13:22 *"A good man leaves an inheritance for his children's children*".

A good man does not think about the past. He learns from the past and thinks about the future. A good man does not leave an inheritance of just money and land. That is not the only inheritance Solomon is talking about here. He was talking about a heritage, something to stand on, and something to lean on throughout the life. May be when you were growing up, your father left when things got tough. You think you need to do the same now that you have a family. Hear me and hear me very good. If you have a little boy and you leave, you will teach him the same thing your father taught you. It does not stop. It causes a perpetual cycle of destruction. We have to stop this cycle by getting back to our manufacturers manual and our heavenly country's constitution-to get on course again.

Chapter Five

The Male-Man's Position

Man's priority in creation not only means that he was designed to be the foundation of the human family, but also that he was the first to be positioned on earth according to God's purposes. He was the first to have a relationship with God, to experience God's creation and to receive God's instructions.

The Garden of Eden.

The male-man was positioned in an environment in which he was meant to carry out his purpose.

"And the LORD God planted a garden eastward in Eden; and there he put the man whom he had formed." ***Genesis 2:8***

This point is very, very significant. God placed the man in an environment in which he was supposed to remain

in order to fulfill his purpose for existence. What was this environment like?

A place of heaven on earth.

The word "*Eden*" is a strange word in the Bible. *Eden* comes from a Hebrew word meaning "a spot" or "delight" or "delicate" or "atmosphere" or "environment". In other words, *Eden* is not a place. That is why no archeologist can find it. Literally *Eden* in Hebrew means "*a delightful spot for the moment where the presence of God is an open door to heaven".*

The word "*Garden"* means "*an enclosure* "or something "*fenced in*". This was more than an ordinary garden. All that was influencing heaven influenced that particular location on earth. God did not start by placing man over the entire earth or by placing him just anywhere on earth. He placed him at the *spot* called *Eden* where there was a glory connection between the seen and the unseen. There was glory flowing back and forth from this particular place on earth.

I call this spot God's "Incubator" for His new offspring. Sometimes a new born baby is placed in an incubator so that he can become physically acclimated to his new environment. Man was in God all along, since he was "*chosen before the foundation of the world*" ***Ephesians 1:4.*** It was as if man was used to the environment of being in God that God chose a special place on the planet and put His anointing on it for the sake of the man when He put

him on the earth. In this way, the transition wouldn't be a strain on him. He could live in a controlled environment- a little spot of heaven on earth.

A place of God's continual presence.

A gravid reason why God placed the man in the Garden was that he could be in His presence all the time. He could walk and talk with the Lord in the cool of the day. He could hear God's voice. This was a place where communion, fellowship and oneness with God was always intact.

Here is the significance of this mystery: God never intended for Adam to move from the Garden. He intended for the *Garden to move over the earth.* God wanted Adam to take the *presence of the garden* and spread it throughout the world. This is what He meant when He told Adam to *dominate the earth.* This is still God's purpose today. Isaiah says;

"*…for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea*." ***Isaiah 11:8.***

Adam would fulfill this purpose only if he was in constant communication with the God of the Garden. It is not just enough to go to church. We need to be in touch with God constantly, hearing His voice, listening to His commands, following His direction. This is because our inner beings need to be strengthened and because we are responsible for leading those for whom we are accountable. That is the reason as to why God gave Adam Himself before He gave him anyone or anything else. The key here is

relationship. God put the male in the Garden because He wanted him always to be related to Him in fellowship and communion.

Here is the principle: The first thing a male-man needs, is not a woman, but the presence of God. *Eve* met *Adam* in the presence. Hear me ladies; the best place to find a real man for super successful long-lasting marriage relationship is not in the night club or the bush, but in the *presence* of God. No more, no less. When I discovered this, my whole life and perspective changed. I began cultivating my relationship with God first before I could cultivate a relationship with my future wife. Adam did not move around announcing that he needed a wife. Eve met Adam on purpose, in the *presence.*

A place of training.

God's directive to man was, "*fill the earth and subdue it" **(Genesis 1:28).***Yet God told the male, in essence, "Have dominion over this spot right here so that you become used to ruling on a small scale at first." The implication here is that God wanted man to grow in dominion ability by learning to dominate the area in which he was initially placed. The Hebrew word for *dominion* here is "*Radah*" which means to manage, to rule, to control, to govern and administrate. The connotation is; if you have been faithful in little things, then your rulership will be expanded to much more. ***(Matthew 25:14-23)***

God is so good all the times. He does not give us more than we can handle. He always gives just enough to train us for the rest. God will always give you just enough so that you can get used to the idea of more. But many of us want everything right now. God will never give you what you want but He will give you what you can manage. If you can't manage one hundred thousand shillings, why does He give you one million to waste?

God is saying in effect; "you will get everything but not right at this moment. You have not yet developed the character and the experience to enable you to handle more."

Also God's command in Genesis 1:28 is most often understood as referring to procreation, but filling the earth with people is only part of the meaning. The Hebrew word for fruitful means more than just sexual reproduction; it refers to being fruitful in either a literal or a figurative sense. Fruitfulness can be qualitative in nature as well as quantitative. Mankind has never had a problem being procreative—a current global population of 6.7 billion is proof of that—but we do have a problem with being fruitful in the other ways God desires.

Essentially, being fruitful means releasing our potential. Fruit is an end product. An apple tree may provide cool shade and be beautiful to look at, but until it produces apples it has not fulfilled its ultimate purpose. Apples contain the seeds of future apple trees and, therefore,

future apples. However, apples also have something else to offer: a sweet and nourishing food to satisfy human physical hunger. In this sense, fruit has a greater purpose than simply reproducing; fruit exists to bless the world. Late Dr. Myles Munroe said in one of his sermons; "Every person is born with a seed of greatness.

God never tells us to go find seed; it is already within us. Inside each of us is the seed potential for a full forest—a bumper crop of fruit with which to bless the world. We each were endowed at birth with a unique gift, something we were born to do or become that no one else can achieve the way we can. God's purpose is that we bear abundant fruit and release the blessings of our gift and potential to the world."

Being fruitful is a good and necessary start, but it should grow into the next phase, increase. Once again, even though the idea here is to multiply or reproduce, sexual procreation is only part of the meaning. The Hebrew word for increase also can mean "abundance," "to be in authority," "to enlarge," and "to excel." It carries the sense of refining your gift until it is completely unique. It is impossible to reproduce what you have not refined.

In this context, then, to increase means not only to multiply or reproduce as in having children, but also to improve and excel, mastering your gift and becoming the very best you can possibly be at what you do. It also means learning how to manage the resources God has given you

and developing a strategy for managing the increase that will come through refinement.

The more refined your gift, the more in demand you will be. Proverbs 18:16 (KJV) says, "*A man's gift makes room for him, and brings him before great men.*" By refining your gift, you make room for it in the world. What is your fruit—your gift? What are you known for? What do you have that is reproducible? What quality or ability do you have that causes people to seek you out? What brings you joy? What are you passionate about? What do you have to offer the world, even just your little part of it? Fruit must be reproducible or else it is not genuine fruit. "Be fruitful" means to produce fruit; "increase" means to reproduce it.

The prodigal son story is the case in point. ***(Luke 15:11-32).*** The son's demand from his father was coming to him. He really always had everything since he was a beloved son of his father and would receive his inheritance. However, his father wanted him to work with him first in the family business. He wanted him to gain experience by helping to run the estate and by learning responsibility. Then he would be able to handle whatever difficulties he might face in the future.

Here is the application. You should discover what God has qualified you for, and then ask for that. If you receive more than you are qualified for, then what you receive may well disqualify you because you are not prepared for it. Remember what you can't manage, you don't value and

what you don't value, you waste and what you waste, you lose.

So God placed the male in *Eden* in order to train and prepare him. Yet, we will see in the next chapter, the man couldn't even handle the Garden. Imagine if he had the whole earth to begin with! It is dangerous to have everything at once to begin with. I give credit to God for the process He uses in our lives. God does not just promote us. He qualifies us for promotion. Our question of Him should not be, "God, when will you promote me?" but "God, am I ready for promotion?

Pursuing God's Garden of Eden first

Are you fretful about finding the "right" person? The best place to find a godly person is in the Garden of Eden. If you are interested in a spiritual person, look for him or her wherever the Spirit of God is. In God's arrangement of things, we generally find what we need and want, when we are not actively looking for them, but are focused instead on the Lord and His Demesne. When our eyes are steadfastly fixed on God, He brings everything else into our scope. Jesus stated it this way:

So do not worry, saying, "What shall we eat?" or "What shall we drink?" or "What shall we wear?" For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. Therefore, do not worry

about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own ***(Matt. 6:31-34).***

Jesus said that we should not worry about our everyday needs such as food, drink, and clothing. I believe this principle extends to all the apprehensions we have in life, including our relationships and finding that "special someone."

Our first priority as believers is to seek the Kingdom and righteousness of God. If we do that, He will see to it that we receive all those other things. The key is to fix our attention on God's will, God's Word, and God's glory, and trust Him for the rest. I believe with the whole of my heart that the best place to find a godly person is on the road to God's Kingdom.

My wife Martha found me on this road. I also found her on the same road. Seeking the Kingdom and righteousness of God is like walking down a road toward a particular destination, keeping our eyes focused on the goal line ahead of us. As long as we stay on the road before us, we grow in the grace and knowledge of the Lord and in His righteousness, which means knowing how to live, act, and relate correctly in life. This knowledge comes through God's Word and from spending time in His Presence-Eden.

Along the way, various routes and lanes branch off from the road on either side. In those alleys stand people or objects

that try to get our attention. They represent distractions, things that are not necessarily bad in and of themselves, but can cause us to take our eyes off of the Lord. On my expedition, I had a lot of such people (ladies) who wanted to get my attention and swerve me off. Cogitate a young man who is making his way down the road, assiduously pursuing the Kingdom of God. All of a sudden, in one of the alleyways, he sees a very gorgeous young woman.

Stopping dead in his trajectories, he says to himself, "Wow, she's really pretty! I'm going to check her out!" and then promenades over to make her friend. Now, two things have just happened. First, his eyes, which, a moment before, were filled with images of God's Kingdom, are now filled with the image of the young lady. Second, as he moves toward her, he will at some point step off the path because she is not on the road with him, and because he is not watching where he is going.

When I was learning how to ride a bicycle, unless I kept my eyes straight ahead, the bicycle would not go straight; it would veer to the left and right and throw me off balance. In the same way, once the young man lets his eyes wander to the alley, he will swing off the path, losing sight of God in the course. If he is not careful, before he knows it, he will end up somewhere he never envisioned to go.

Anytime we start seeking people, we will be led by people. This is the dynamic of balance that God wants us to see. Once we become preoccupied and engrossed with

someone, or with seeking a particular person, we run the risk of losing God's direction and track. If we step off the road to the Kingdom, whatever path we take will lead us backward so that whenever we do eventually make it back to the road, we will likely be bruised and bleeding and farther away from our goal than when we began.

Now, I know and I can hear you object in your spirit, "But if I don't go looking, I'm going to end up walking this whole road by myself." That's not how the dynamics work in the Kingdom of God. Matthew 6:33 says that if we seek first God's Kingdom and righteousness, then ***"all these things will be given"*** to us. The King James Version says, *"all these things shall be added unto you"* (emphasis added). The Greek word for "***added***" is the same root word from which we get our word "***magnetize***." This means that, as we go along our way seeking the Kingdom of God, all these other things that we are concerned about will be added—drawn to us like a magnet. We won't have to go looking for them.

Whenever we follow God's principles, we receive God's provision and enjoy God's promises. Here is my point: if you have to go look for someone, then the person you are looking for is not on the road with you, not following the same path you are. Read that statement again. That means he or she is not seeking the Kingdom of God. If you find someone off the road, you will have to go out of your way to find them, perhaps stay out of your way to get them,

and then spend the rest of your life trying to bring them into the way. Isn't that wastage of time? Anyone you get involved with as a believer should be headed the same way you are, and if both of you are on the same road, at the same approximate place, eventually you will run into each other. You won't have to go looking.

Stay on the highway friend, focus on seeking God's Demesne and, sooner or later, someone of like mind and heart will approach and the two of you will be drawn together. Don't ever become so preoccupied by who you want that you forget to be who you are.

Who are you? As a believer and a follower of Christ, you are a child of God. You are His possession, His property, His precious jewel. Righteousness means right standing with God. He wants you to know where you stand with Him: who you are in Christ and what you have in Him. If you become preoccupied with who you want, you will lose sight of who you are. God wants you to become so expended by His Kingdom and righteousness that anybody you meet will be, first of all, someone who is on the road with you and, second, at the same place on the road as you are. That way you can move along and relate and grow together as complete individuals at the same stage of development and maturity.

Chapter Six

The Male-Man's Assignment

Assignmentmeans a chore or something that has been entrusted to you to do. The responsibilities with which God has entrusted to the male-man are very coherent and they indicate his purpose. What God gave Adam still holds to every man today because God is a God of purpose and He has a reason for everything that He does.

VISIONARY AND LEADER

"*The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it. And the Lord God commanded the man*" (Gen 2:15-16). Whom did the Lord God command? He commanded the male-man. What did He tell him? "*You are free to eat from any tree in the garden; but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat of*

it you will surely die." (Vv. 16-17). You realize that the male, being the first to show up, received all the information, all the revelation, all the communication from God. God wanted him to be the initial recipient of His purpose for mankind. He showed him the complete garden, the whole environment of Eden, a vision of everything He had created, and then He finally gave him the instructions for living.

If you read this scenario carefully, you discover that the female was not formed until the proceedings of the above scripture passage. Therefore, what is the connotation here? The male received the information alone. He was in-charge alone. He was responsible alone. He was a leader alone. Therefore, the male was given the charge of being the visionary and the leader, the one who would guide those that came after him in the ways of God. From this, I have come to understand that everything that is necessary to lead the family is built into the male.

This is so staid. Men reading this book, if something goes wrong in your family, you are accountable. You may say, as Adam told God when mankind fell, "*But the woman…*" (Gen 3:12) No sir, hang on, not the woman- you are responsible. God went straight to Adam even though Eve was the first to eat the fruit. When God asked him, "*Where are you?*" (v.9), the question was not one of *location*, but of *position.* Paraphrase! "*You are not fulfilling your purpose of leadership Mr. Adam. What has happened to your family?"*

The male is not elected the head of the family. You don't canvas for votes in the family to become the head of the home. As long as you are a man, you are automatically the head of the family. Your purpose was not chosen by you but by God. Whether you like it or not, if you try to run from this responsibility, it will run after you. Do you know why? Because it is not just a role but a God-given purpose.

TEACHER

God told Adam, "*You are free to eat from any tree in the garden; but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat of it you will surely die.*" (Vv. 16-17). He didn't tell this to Eve. He told it to Adam, which means, it was his responsibility to teach and guide her in the Word of God.

If I were the first to discover something, like I have always discovered in many facets, and someone else shows up on the scene needing to know the information, what would that make me? It would make me the *teacher.* The fact that I was there first and had all the information would put me in that position. Likewise, the male was given the purpose of being the teacher, not because he is smarter, but because he was first to show up. Again this does not mean that women are unable to teach, but that God intended men to be primarily responsible for teaching His ways.

When Satan came to tempt Eve, her answer was based on

what she had heard from Adam, not from God. Perhaps she added the aggrandizement or Adam did; it is not clear. But the point is that it was Adam's job to teach her God's instruction. Can I speak to a woman reading this book? You should never think of getting married to a man who has not received God' instruction.

A real woman is looking for a teacher who is going to instruct her in the ways of God. There is a lot of men today who can literally name all the players in a football team but they can't even name the 12 disciples of Jesus-not even the first five books in the Bible. Another question you should ask him is not whether he loves you; but whether he received the instructions. That adds up to your determination for a successful marriage.

CULTIVATOR.

"*The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work (cultivate NASB) it"* (Gen 2:15). Therefore, one of the male-man's responsibilities is to work or cultivate or promote.

To *cultivate* means to make something grow and produce a greater yield. It means to make the best use of something around you, to the best it was meant to be. So if you are a man, your purpose is to cultivate everything around you. *Cultivation* also means to make something fruitful, to develop it into its perfection. The man is to be a developer and a fruit producer. He is to be a source of fruitfulness.

This is where I would like to proclaim to men, that God will never give you a finished woman for marriage. That finished or perfect woman only exists in your head. Your job is to marry that raw material and make her the finished woman in your head.

It is interesting to note that God gave this assignment to the male before the female was created, and before the child was born. Therefore, the purpose of the male-man is to develop and cultivate both people and things to God's glory.

PROVIDER.

Provide comes from a Latin word meaning "*To see ahead.*" The male should be a visionary. He should have a vision for his life and he should work to see that that vision is accomplished-for himself, his family and others under his care. Cultivation involves both creativity and effort. These two things are the nature of true work.

Dear my fellow men, I want to introduce you to one of your primary purposes. It is very simple and nothing complicated. You don't have to try to be Badang of Singapore. You don't have to have big muscles. You don't have to be like Golola. Now, someone may say; "Because Adam sinned; now I have to go and work." Hang on! Work was given to man in **Genesis 2**, before man fell. In other words, work is not a curse. I wrote a whole chapter about work in my book; *Discovering the purpose of your existence.*

God Himself worked when He created the world and He still works to carry out His purposes.

Our Heavenly Father never gives us too much to do. We will assign ourselves an overload, but never the Lord. He knows what He wants from each of us, and there is plenty of time in His day for things essential to His plan. We do Him a grave injustice when we fall into the habit of compulsive overwork. We sin when we pressure out His wishes for assignment that have not been filtered through divine judgment.

The night before He died, Jesus made an astonishing claim. In the great prayer of John 17 He said, '*I have finished the work which you gave me to do'* (Vv.4).

How could Jesus use the word '*finish*'? His three and half-year ministry seemed all too short. A prostitute at Simon's banquet had found forgiveness and a new life, but many others still walked the street without forgives and a new life. For every ten withered muscles that had flexed into health, a hundred remained impotent. Yet on the last night, with many useful tasks undone and urgent human needs unmet, the Lord had peace: He knew He had finished God's work.

The gospel records show that Jesus worked hard. After describing a busy day, Mark writes, "*That evening, at sundown, they brought to Him all who were sick or possessed with demons. And the whole city was gathered about the door'. And*

he healed many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons" **(**Mark 1:32-34**)**

On another occasion the demons of the ill and maimed caused Him to miss supper and to work so late that His disciples thought of Him besides Himself. (***Mark 3:21***). One day after a strenuous teaching session, Jesus and His disciples went out in a boat. Even a storm didn't awaken Him ***(Math 4:37-38***). What a picture of exhaustion. And yet His life was never feverish. He had time for people. He could spend hours talking to one person, such as the Samaritan woman at the well. His life showed a wonderful balance, a sense of timing. When His brothers wanted Him to go to Judea, He replied, '*My time has not yet come*' John 7:6. Jesus did not ruin His gifts with haste.

What is the significance of work? *Work exposes your potential*. You cannot show what you have inside unless demands are made on it, and demands are placed on it by work. In general, the male is built physically stronger than the female, particularly in his upper body, because of God's command that he works.

PROTECTOR.

"*The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to… take care of it.* (Gen 2:15). The succeeding other responsibility that the male-man was given was to *take care* of the Garden. *To take care* meant to *guard and protect* the Garden and everything in it. God never told the woman

to protect anything. Why? Because the woman is one of the things the man is supposed to protect.

God designed male to protect everything under his jurisdiction and his covering. So the male is a natural protector. The man is built in every way to protect. His physical frame is evidence of that, but so is his mental capacity. The way he is structured and designed psychologically is designed to protect.

There is a final aspect of the male as both the provider and the protector that I want you to recognize. Before the Eve came, God gave man one last responsibility.

"Now the Lord God had formed out of the ground all the beasts of the field and all the birds of the air. He brought them to the man to see what he would name them; and whatever the man called each living creature, that was its name. So the man gave names to all the livestock, the birds of the air and all the beasts of the field. But for Adam, no suitable helper was found." (Genesis 2:19-20).

When I was pursuing my Bachelor's Degree at the seminary, one of the things I desired to study was the original language of the Bible. I used to hear my guru, talk about and teach from it more often; but I also wanted to study Hebrew for myself. It was an amazing experience for me. Now, the Hebrew concept of *naming* things actually means to *possess* them. This idea is very supreme in the Bible. Why did God tell the male-man to name the animals? Why didn't God name them Himself? Here is

the answer. It is because whatever you *name*, you *possess*. Whatever you name, you *own* and *control.* That is why God Himself named the male.

God called us His children because He always wants to have rights to us. We belong to Him. "*In Him we live and have our being*" (Acts 17:28). No one else has a right to you because God named you. This is why Satan has no legal rights to you. You are already named, so he can't name you.

Listen to me! This idea is why God made sure that Mary and Joseph didn't name Jesus. He personally named His son. Why? He didn't want Jesus' earthly parents to possess Him. He knew that the day would come when Jesus would reach twelve years of age and His mother would ask Him, "*Why did you leave us, son?*" and He would have to say, "'*I must be about my father's business'* He named me. You didn't name me." (***Luke 2:48-49.)***

Can I take you one step further? This is why God didn't name the woman. God chose not to name the female. He wanted the man to be totally responsible for her. That is why in marriage, a woman traditionally takes on her husband's name to signify that he is responsible for her. When I walked down the aisle at City Victory Church on 12th Nov 2016, there was an exchange of vows and names. My wife took on my name Muwanguzi, not only to show the world that we had entered into a forever covenant, but to also denote that I am now totally responsible for her.

Real men are very careful about naming things because they know the reality of this principle: whatever you name, you claim and whatever you claim, you have the responsibility for. Young men, don't be so brisk to give your name away, because whomever you give your name to, you have to cherish and love; care for and secure; and protect and work for.

Young women, the next time a man comes to you and wants to give you his name, first see if you want to be claimed. Check him out! Ask him questions; "can you sustain me? Can you supply what I need? Can you cultivate me?" I am not talking about money here. I am talking about comfort, protection, cultivation, intellectual stimulation, knowledge and security. Many men have money, but they don't have much sense. You don't want a rich fool. You want a real man.

Let me close this chapter on this important mystery. The word '*Husband*' is two words put together. It means '*House bond*'. He is the one who bonds the house together or the one who keeps the family together. All husbands are male but not all male are husbands. I have never seen a husband who is a female. This takes us back to the male assignment of visionary and leader. That means the husband who happens to be a male, holds the key that bonds the family together. *Abba* is an important word in the Bible. God never intended for a woman to ever leave her father. A woman didn't come from the dust, but she came from the

man. That is why she is called a wombed-man. She is a man but with a womb.

"*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).

It is the man who leaves, but not a woman. Do you know why? It is because of this word "*Abba".* This word *Abba* is not a name. It is a function. It means *source, seed, foundation* and *sustainer.* So God tricked us men. God said, "What I am going to do, I am going to go inside the man, and pull out a wombed-man; so that the man becomes the source of the woman". The word source in Hebrew is *Abba* and in English we say *Father*. Therefore, the female was designed by God to eternally be *sourced* by the man. That is why only the man leaves his father and not the woman.

Chapter Seven

Understanding a Man and his Sex Life

Sex is a physical sign of a Spiritual act-the giving of oneself completely to another and for another. The greatest adversary of man is not death, sin or Satan but Ignorance. My concern is about the ignorance of this and how it has done and is doing to people's lives. It has led to chaos, confusion, misunderstanding and broken relationships between men and women.

Everywhere we turn we are bombarded by sexual images and messages. Sex drives both the entertainment and the advertising industries. It fills the airwaves and the movie theaters. It is used to sell everything from shaving cream to automobiles. Even our everyday speech is interspersed with sex talk. Some people seemingly cannot hold a

conversation unless it is laced with sexual references. Yet, for all of our talking and thinking about sex, much of society remains largely ignorant of the subject because so much of our dialogue is based on booboo, howler and misconceptions.

Another sad truth is that the modern Church typically has little to add to the discussion. This is especially tragic because believers, who know and follow the God who created sex and established its proper parameters, should be able to speak more intelligently and confidently about it than anyone else. Yet the community of believers is often silent in the public forum regarding sex, whether because of embarrassment, confusion, timidity, or a sense that the subject of sex is either too personal or not sufficiently "spiritual" for the Church to weigh in on publicly.

How a person has learned about sex determines, to a large extent, how he engages in it. I have come to a discovery that men and women lack positive, informed teaching on the subject of sexuality. Much of the blame rests with the church and the home.

When I was still young, the message I used to hear from my church was that sex is unholy and dirty. I have never gone to a church and hear the minister say, "Our message today is sex". If that were to happen, I know people might be stunned but no one would leave. People, whether old or young, male or female are hurting and longing in the area of sexuality, and they want to know what God says

about it. Yet the church somehow has decided it is not proper to discuss the topic. Listen to me parents: no one has legal rights to shape your child's concept and attitudes about sex, except you.

Train up your child in the way he should go. Then, when a friend or a teacher starts to say something erroneous about sex, your child can dismiss it, with the knowledge, "that is not what my parents taught me." Some of us missed to hear this from our parents. That is why I and my wife want to be great parents. The mistakes of my parents are a combination of what they missed to take, hence miss-take. The most important lesson I learnt from what they missed-to-take is to take what they missed.

God created sex

First of all, you and I need to realize that God is not negative about sex as per Genesis 1:28. Sex is God's idea and not man's. It is such a beautiful expression of love and giving that God could have thought it. Every baby is born as a sexual creature with the potential to have a sexual relationship as an adult. God is negative only on the misuse of sex. The Bible also is very open on the subject of sexuality. The main theme of the book of Song of Songs is sexual love.

The sexual design by the creator.

God designed sex within marriage for a number of reasons. Here is what I think basing on the Biblical principles I

learned down the years:

1. ***To procreate the Human race.***

After God created male and female (Genesis 1:27), he blessed them and said, *"Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it*" Now, there is only one way to "*be fruitful and increase in number".* God was telling them, in effect, "Go for it. Don't just have a few children. Fill the earth". That is why, when God created Adam, he never went back to the soil. Eve was drawn from Adam. Right now, we have 6.7 Billion people on the face of the earth. Not even one of them came from the soil besides Adam.

God created man to exercise dominion over the created order, and one way of accomplishing that goal was through procreation: to reproduce and populate the earth.

It was to this end that God created man in two genders, a male "man" and a female "man." The man and the woman were of the same spirit and the same essence—they were made of the same "stuff," as it were. First, God created the man, Adam. Then He made a woman—Eve—from part of Adam's side, and presented her to him. "The man said, '*this is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called "woman," 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*" ***(Gen. 2:23-24)***. The phrase "one flesh" is a sexual reference relating to the physical union between a husband and wife.

The Bible contains many other references that indicate that human reproduction is a fundamental part of God's plan for mankind. In its proper place, sex is both honorable and a source of blessing from God.

"If you pay attention to these laws and are careful to follow them, then the Lord your God will keep His covenant of love with you, as He swore to your forefathers. He will love you and bless you and increase your numbers. He will bless the fruit of your womb, the crops of your land—your grain, new wine and oil—the calves of your herds and the lambs of your flocks in the land that he swore to your forefathers to give you. You will be blessed more than any other people; none of your men or women will be child- less, nor any of your livestock without young" ***(Deuteronomy 7:12-14*** *emphasis added).*

Here God actually makes a commitment to His people that if they are faithful and obedient to Him, none of them will be barren or childless. God wants His people to procreate. He wants to populate the world with His children so that His glory will fill the earth.

"Sons are a heritage from the Lord, children a reward from Him. Like arrows in the hands of a warrior are sons born in one's youth. Blessed is the man whose quiver is full of them. They will not be put to shame when they con- tend with their enemies in the gate" (***Psalm 127:3-5***).

Children are a heritage from God. The Hebrew word ben ("sons") has a wide variety of meanings and can refer to

all children, not just males. Heritage means "property." God takes the conceiving, birthing, and raising of children very seriously because they are His heritage. That's why abortion and physical and sexual abuse of children are such serious sins—they are messing with God's heritage.

There are many other passages that could be cited but these should be sufficient to demonstrate clearly—if there was any doubt—that one of the primary purposes of sex is for procreation.

2. ***To seal a blood covenant between two humans.***

Genesis 2:24 says, "*A man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and they will become one flesh."*

Sexual intercourse constitutes making yourself "*one flesh*" with another person. This means a fleshly (physical) or sexual covenant. I made research about this while in teaching system. I used to teach science in upper Primary. The medical science has discovered that the little layer of the skin of a female vagina has one of the highest concentrations of blood vessels in the body. The only thing that comes from that layer of skin is blood. So the only way to open up a female is by spilling blood on yourself and her-and God marks it; *Covenant*. No wonder someone said that Blood is thicker than water.

The strongest form of covenant in the Bible is the blood covenant, and God has designed the sexual experience as a type of blood covenant. That is why there are such serious

warnings in scripture concerning not having sex with just anybody. If you have sex with a prostitute, you have joined yourself to her in a covenant. Even after you have paid her money-and she is gone, you still remain with her in some sense and her with you.

A man long ago went to a night party and met a lady around 1:00am and they talked. The lady seduced him and they had sex at the back of a vehicle parked at the party and around 3:00am, the man accompanied the lady home and when they got in front of a house, the lady pointed to a house where she lives and the man turned back with the promise of visiting her at 10:00am the following day. But when the man got there in the morning, he was told that the lady died three years ago. So he had actually just slept with a spirit and that is where all his problems started. He had made a covenant with the devil. Men, if you don't tighten your zips, you will end up sleeping with Lucifer's wife.

3. ***To allow sex to be enjoyed to its maximum potential.***

Deuteronomy 24:5 "*When a man is newly married, he shall not go out with the army or be liable for any other public duty. He shall be free at home one year to be happy with his wife whom he has taken. (ESV)"*

The very thing we think God is against, he promoted. A freshly and newly married man was to have no other responsibilities during his first year of marriage but to

bring his wife happiness. He would stay with her and bless her. In order to fulfill our highest potential, we have to follow the laws that God gave us. Fellow men, if you can grasp this point you will fathom how it is easy to live in a Godly way in the area of sexuality. God's laws are for our protection and not our restriction. His boundaries have been established for our preservations not our irritation.

If procreation is the practical, necessary side to sex, then recreation and release make up the "impractical" side. We have sex not only to reproduce the race but also for the sheer joy and pleasure it affords. Let's be frank: Sex is fun. Isn't it? God meant for us to enjoy sex; otherwise, why would He have designed it to be so pleasurable?

Some folks, including believers, are uncomfortable with such frankness where sex is concerned. They feel even more ill at ease at the thought of parts of the Bible—God's Word—being sexually unambiguous. Nevertheless, it is true that the Word of God contains some "sexy" sections, particularly the book called the Song of Solomon. This Old Testament book is so open and frank in its language that many believers have felt more comfortable allegorizing its content into a symbolic story about Christ's love for His Church. Perhaps it does indeed have that meaning as well, but at heart the Song of Solomon is a frank and explicit love song that celebrates the joy and bliss of marriage love.

One example will be sufficient to show how the Bible presents sex in marriage as a recreational pleasure apart

from any reference to procreation.

"How beautiful you are, my darling! Oh, how beautiful! Your eyes behind your veil are doves.…Your lips are like a scarlet ribbon; your mouth is lovely.…Your two breasts are like two fawns, like twin fawns of a gazelle that browse among the lilies.…You have stolen my heart, my sister, my bride; you have stolen my heart with one glance of your eyes, with one jewel of your necklace. How delightful is your love, my sister, my bride!

How much more pleasing is your love than wine, and the fragrance of your perfume than any spice! Your lips drop sweetness as the honeycomb, my bride; milk and honey are under your tongue. The fragrance of your garments is like that of Lebanon. You are a garden locked up, my sister, my bride; you are a spring enclosed, a sealed fountain.

Your plants are an orchard of pomegranates with choice fruits, with henna and nard, nard and saffron, calamus and cinnamon, with every kind of incense tree, with myrrh and aloes and all the finest spices. You are a garden fountain, a well of flowing water streaming down from Lebanon. Awake, north wind, and come, south wind! Blow on my garden that its fragrance may spread abroad. Let my lover come into his garden and taste its choice fruits" ***(Song of Songs 4:1a,3a,5,9-16).***

This is frank and intimate sex talk between two lovers, but the passage also makes it clear that they are husband and wife. Three times the man refers to his lover as "my sister, my bride." These verses describe the husband's

relaxed, loving inventory of his wife's physical beauty. In verse 12, the phrases "*a garden locked up," a spring enclosed," and "a sealed fountain*" refer to the bride's virginity on her wedding night. In the eyes of her husband she is a garden of beauty, an orchard of "*choice fruits*," "*incense*," and "*all the finest spices*." Verse 16 is actually the bride's response to her husband's love talk, inviting him, her lover, to "*come into his garden and taste its choice fruits."*

If the explicit and intimate nature of this language shocks you, keep in mind that it does not shock God. God invented sex, and He wants us to experience its joys. In the proper context of a loving marriage relationship, there is nothing shameful, wrong, or immoral about sex. Sex is a pleasure meant to be enjoyed between a husband and wife for its own sake.

4. ***Sex is for Communication.***

The fourth purpose for which God designed sex is communication. Sex is no substitute for open and honest conversation between a husband and wife, but in a loving environment that inspires communication, sexual consummation provides a degree of intimacy and communion that goes far beyond words. No one should be more intimate or "connected" physically, mentally, or emotionally than a husband and wife. Their friendship should have no rival; no other earthly relationship should have higher priority. This is the essential meaning behind *Genesis 2:24: "For this reason a man will leave his father and*

mother and be united to his wife, and they will become one flesh."

Under God's standard, sexual activity is restricted to marriage. The husband/wife relationship is a singular relationship, and sexual foreplay and intercourse provide a unique form of intimate communion and sharing that they should reserve exclusively for each other.

Safe boundaries of sexuality

God wants us to enjoy sex so much that He has provided for us what its safe boundaries are. The safest foundational boundary for sex is the marriage covenant.

Deuteronomy 24:5 "*When a man is newly married, he shall not go out with the army or be liable for any other public duty. He shall be free at home one year to be happy with his wife whom he has taken. (ESV)"*

It does not say to move in with someone for a year and then try other things out. There are no provisional covenants. Proverbs 5:18-19 is a passage referenced to sex. Enjoy "*the wife of your youth*" and not someone else. There is an empty space in male that needs to be filled up by a female. And God says; make sure your wife fills that space.

Genesis 2:23-24 "*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. Therefore, shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh*."

"*For this reason*" for what reason should a man leave? To "*Be*

united" to who? His wife. The minute that law is violated, we begin to reap the repercussions. Next verse says "*and they will become one flesh*' the boundaries that God has established for this one-flesh experience is the husband and wife relationship and not boy and girl relationship. I have discovered that marriage enables us to enjoy sex to the fullest. I just can't imagine how it felt after he had sex with my wife on our honeymoon night. My gosh! Totally unashamed and at peace. I didn't care if people talked about what I had done. After all, what else is done in the honeymoon? I had no shame, no embarrassment and no fear of being caught and no fear of pregnancy.

There is much freedom in the laws of God. Yet if we violate God's laws, the first thing we lose is peace. Science has proven that there are a few things our bodies are not built to handle. One of them is *guilt*. Our bodies have no hormones, enzymes or chemicals to handle guilt. Only the blood of Jesus can free us from guilt. 1 Corinthians 6:13," *The body is not meant for sexual immorality, but for the Lord."*

What is your body made for? It is made for God. It was created to be used in the context that God has already established. God placed specific boundaries on sexual behavior and we can have all the fun we want within that context and we won't experience guilt. Let me say one more truth here. God created males and females to express sexuality in a specific way. God never gave Adam a male;

he gave him a woman, who happened to be a female; not male and male or female and female. This is enough for us to know that homosexuality is not God's plan because it just doesn't fit God's design.

1 Corinthians 6:15-18. The word translated "*flee*' in Greek is "*Theogete*" which means, "Run away; Shun; Escape" verse 18 says; "*flee from sexual immorality. Every other sin a person commits is outside the body, but the sexually immoral person sins against his own body.*"

If you steal, it is outside the body. If you fight, it is outside the body. If you abuse, it is outside the body. You don't become one with a person when you kick or slap or curse that person. But when you have sex with a lady, you can't separate yourself from her. Remember I earlier said that sex is a covenant. Some men can't fathom when a couple sleep together for a time, and then, when they both decide to break off the relationship, they have trouble going their separate ways. It is because the separation causes real trauma in their souls. Now guys, this is a serious matter. That is why relationships outside God's plan can be so hazardous.

1 Corinthians 6:19-20. Your body is twice God's. The first time, He created you in His own image. The second time He bought you and the price was so high. So your body is God's property.

Once upon a time, a little boy worked very hard using a

good piece of wood and some tools; he made himself a fine little yacht. He was very proud of it and used to go with other boys who also had their yachts and sail it on the calm water of the lake near his home. One day it drifted away out of sight and carried by a strong breeze and all the lad's efforts to reach it or even follow it with his eye were unsuccessful. Some days later, as he was going down the busy main street, where most of the shops were, he saw his yacht in a shop window. He went in and said it was his lost yacht. But in spite of all his claims and although he said over and over again, that he had made it with his own hands, the shopkeeper said, "If you want it, you must pay for it." The boy returned home, counted up his savings and found that he just had enough to meet the cost of the yacht. So he went to the shop and bought it back. "*You are twice mine*." He said aloud as he looked thankfully and joyfully at his little yacht. *"You are mine because I made you and you are mine because I bought you back*."

We belong to God once because He made us; we belong to God twice because He paid a great price for us. We had gotten into wrong hands when we sinned against God and He sent His son to our world to buy us back, not with silver or gold, but with His precious blood, when He died on the cross. How can you then honor God with your body? First by waiting until you are married to engage in sex and secondly by having sex only with your wife. We are God's temple. We lift up our hands to worship God; we can use the same hands to caress our wives. Both acts

are holy in His sight. I feel so peaceful right now in my family with my wife. When it comes to sex, no shame, no guilt and no fear because we processed the kingdom license on *12th November 2016* to operate the company when we walked down the aisle at City Victory Church in Mbale.

Love verses making love

Sex as earlier said, is a sign of spiritual act- the giving of oneself completely to another and for another. Today in our communities, people are looking for sex without love, they are looking for love without marriage and they are looking for marriage without responsibility. The world's idea and view of sex is distorted and shallow. The world says; "make love'. God says "Love". We have totally confused sex with love. Did you know that It is one thing to know how to make love with someone but also quite another to actually love someone? Sex does not produce love. If sex produced love, then no one in the world would feel more loved than prostitutes. Yet prostitutes have among the highest rates of suicide because they feel used and dumped.

Love is the desire to please another, the total giving of oneself to another, not the taking of something. Someone may ask; "What happens when a person gets married to someone who has dangerous health issues or who is paralyzed? What kind of sex life do they experience?" Well, to me the first thing is for them to understand that

marriage is for love and not for sex. Its foundation should be love. There are vast of ways to express love and sex is just one of them. To me, *Sex was given by God to help express love but not create it.*

In the eyes of the world, sex and love are synonymous. Even the most casual perusal of today's newspapers, magazines, books, movies, and television programs will make this clear. Much of the material in these media treats sex and love as if they are inseparable, as if there is no difference between them. The logical outflow of this view is the philosophy that says, "If you love me, you'll let me." After all, if sex and love are the same, how can you claim to love someone and yet decline to have sex with him or her?

Closely related to this is the view that sex is proof of love. How often do we encounter this scenario in books or on film: A man meets a woman and they hit it off well? The next thing we know; they are in bed together. This is our "tip off" that they are "in love." They must be in love; they're having sex, aren't they? It may be an adulterous relationship with one or both of them married to someone else, but that doesn't matter. All that matters is that they are in love. They go to bed, have their fling, get up the next morning, and everything is fine.

That's the picture the world paints. What these books and films rarely if ever reveal is the negative side to these kinds of encounters. In real life, sexual liaisons of this

type produce in most people feelings of guilt, shame, and a sense of being dirty, not to mention a deep absence of fulfillment. It may be "fun" for a moment, but it leaves them feeling empty, and often they don't know why.

The idea of sex as love is one of the biggest lies with which the world has perverted God's original design for sexual expression, enjoyment, and fulfillment. Anyone who gets married for sexual reasons alone has already paved the way for failure because sexual desires fluctuate. It grows peaks and then flies away then dies. If you base your relationship on sex, your relationship will also peak and die someday. Therefore, sex is the wrong foundation stone.

Major causes of prostitution

Have you ever wondered why some people can't be with one partner no matter how much they are loved? Well, there are some people who do not have in their dictionaries, One-Man-One-woman. They are not alright or cannot be alright with just a single partner. Let's look at some of the reasons.

1. Money.

For some people it's all about money and nothing else. They have multiple sexual partners just so they can have multiple 'Accounts' or sources of income. Unfortunately, some of these people do not think of themselves as prostitutes.

2. Revenge.

There are some who have been hurt seriously in the past and they vowed to make other people go through what they went through or worse. They therefore do not put their heart in the relationship because of the motive they came in with.

3. Plan a, b, c, d.

Some people are seriously afraid of broken heart. They have heard different stories about that and do not want to experience that in their life. Some have experienced it but have vowed not to go through it again so they have multiple partners and they don't care so much who leaves. At least the rest or the other partner will be there in case one leaves. This is enigmatic.

4. "No" is unavailable.

Some people are able to speak about 10 different languages but unfortunately they don't know how to say NO in any of the languages. Anybody who proposes to them, they will accept and anybody who wants sex they will give. They can even accept two proposals or propose to two different people same day. This is madness.

5. Boost self-esteem.

Some people deliberately propose and enter into relationships just to try and see if they will be able to get the person to say yes or accept them. Guys who do this

go in for ladies who are still virgins, high class ladies or hard to get ladies or new lady in town. For the ladies who do this, go in for people who are well respected in society or people with high status quos Like a lecturer, minister, pastor, CEO etc.

6. Nymphomaniac.

There are people whose sexual drive or desire is so high or insatiable such that no one person can satisfy them. So to avoid the partner complaining that they love sex too much, they go in for side chicks to satisfy their sexual desires.

7. Fun.

Some people find it thrilling to have multiple sexual partners. The act of playing the partners like chess is fun for the person. There is nothing like love in it.

8. Avoid boredom.

For these people they are a bit stable in the relationship when with the partner but once they move away from one geographical area to another, they must get another partner. They have a partner in school, one at home, one in hometown, one at grandma's place etc. What it means is that anywhere they move to, they have a partner.

9. Research/ investigation.

Some ladies are in search of orgasm. They have never

experienced it before but have heard things, read and watch things. The quest to experience orgasm makes them increase their sample size. While a guy like this will look for a partner who he can practice certain sex positions with because the real partner wouldn't do.

10. Cheap and available

For some people, due to the nature of their work or position, the temptation to have sex or keep changing partners is high. Some teachers, Pastors, doctors, police, long distance drivers, CEOs etc. don't go out begging for sexual partners in most cases but people rather come to them to trade a favor with sex. Because they have a lot to choose from, they are very choosy and some even do audition in their head before choosing the final contestant. There are instances where some people in authority use their office or power to demand sexual relationships from those under them.

Note that People come into relationships with different reasons or purposes and if you don't know you may think it's because of love. Take your time and study the person. Remember also that changing sexual partners will put you at risk of Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STDs) and Sexually Transmitted Demons (STDs). Your self-esteem is never boosted if you do such a thing. People have reasons for the things they do.

Sexual traps for men and how to avoid them.

Sexual sin can be such a tempting to us. I can guarantee you that because I am a man who is not immune to it. I am going to discuss with you some of the sexual traps that we men fall into and some ways or steps of avoiding them. Some of us are on the verge of falling into these sexual traps. May be you are going through a crisis and you don't want your wife or fiancée to know what you know. Yet you can remain faithful to God by understanding these traps and standing strong against them.

I studied these seven years ago while in the Leadership Training Institute in Nairobi and it saved the whole of my teenage life. I have come to conclude that most men love to do what is right. As the matter of fact, leadership is doing the right things and management is doing things right. When we do things right, it is called efficiency and when we do the right things, it is called effectiveness.

Therefore, we need both efficiency and effectiveness in the leadership and management of ourselves as men. However, many voices beckon them to abandon what is true and good. As I am man, I am tempted just like you are. You and I can only be safe by knowing what the Word of God says about these temptations and applying our common sense. Don't think that the Holy Spirit will automatically keep you from falling into these traps.

Men are almost always ready to give, sexually. Actually

they are always ready for sex, anytime, anywhere. They have all it takes to have sex anywhere. Put it other way; they are self-contained machines. Men were designed by God, the chief architecture to be givers. This is natural. That is why you will never find a man who does not want to give.

Here are a few important principles to remember from my maharishi, with regard to the giving and receiving between males and females. "When a male demands, a female reacts; she doesn't respond. When a male gives, a female responds. When a male commits, a female submits.

Nothing is more precious to a female than a committed male. Nothing is no more depressing to a female than an uncommitted male". Here's the secret, guys: If you want a submitted female, be a committed male. It's that simple. When a male abuses, a female refuses. Whenever a man abuses a woman, she refuses to respond. When a male shares, a female cares.

If you find a man who is willing to share with the woman in his life, you will find a woman who is willing to care for her man. When a male leads, a female follows. When a man carries out his God-given responsibility for leadership, a woman responds by following his lead. Leadership does not mean being bossy, always telling others what to do. No, leadership means going ahead, not putting others in the front. Good leaders lead by example, not by decree. Jesus led by example, and so did Moses, Peter, Paul, and

all the other great leaders in the Bible. Leading by example means doing ourselves the things we wish others to do.

The female is physically designed to be a receiver. However, a female's design is quite different from a male in a way that she is not always ready to receive because her body operates on a cycle. She is more receptive on certain days and at certain times. So this is the number one thing that we men have to understand about women. To avoid this sexual trap, you need to accept the fact that your wife is different from you, and learn to work through your differences with patience and love.

Recently, a study was shown that a man's brain has a physiological response to seeing a beautiful woman that is comparable to his response to food. Men are sexual creatures and they can be attracted to any woman. The attraction does not care whether you are a Christian or non-Christian. When a man sees a beautiful woman, the pleasure in his brain reacts. This is physical response, part of males' design. So how can you avoid this trap of admiring or desiring extra marital relationship? First, recognize that your body reacts to physical beauty. Second, do not put yourself in a situation where temptation will become too strong for you. Listen to me young people! Sexual attraction is physiological and should not be acted upon outside marriage relationship. This knowledge will help you from succumbing to sexual temptations.

The most dangerous trap I have known is the ego need.

The word ego means *self.* This is the desire to be admired and respected by the member of the opposite sex. I am very sure you have experienced this desire before like I have and you will experience it again. It does not matter how much you pray in heavenly tongues, if a lady works on your ego needs, you better know how to keep yourself safe. Otherwise, you are in trouble. Ego can make a man behave in foolish and dishonesty ways. It can cause a sane, spirit-filled, committed loving Christian man to leave his wife for another woman. He will say; "This woman makes me feel good" Hope you hear the ego in that.

How can you avoid the trap of the ego need? ***1Timothy 4:3-4***. Paul did not say; "Go and fast for 40 days or bind the power of lust" You don't bind lust but God simply says, "Control yourself". Don't make the woman take advantage of you and make sure you don't take advantage of the woman's feelings for you.

Down the line of my Spiritual walk with the Lord, I have had a number of ladies who desired to have sex with me because of a number of reasons. Some flabbergasting reasons. What kept me safe is the reality and understanding of the original design and purpose of the male and female. I realized that all those were tests or examinations that I was to sit for and expected to pass without re-takes. And indeed I passed all the tests. I also kindly requested my fiancée never to allow me have sex with her before our wedding night. You ladies have no idea how weak and

strong you are to men. I used my strength to protect her from myself and not to abuse her.

Years back while I was serving with Prayer Living Church of Christ Ministries as a youth Pastor, a good friend of mine disqualified himself from ministry due to an inappropriate relationship with a lady in the church. I want to try to redeem this tragedy by offering the following seven thoughts in an effort to spare us, our families and our churches from a similar fate.

1. ***Don't say it can't happen to you.***

While most of us readily nod our heads in agreement, in our hearts we can still live in functional unbelief of this fact. We need to constantly remind ourselves of Paul's warning to the Corinthians in 1 Cor. 10:12: "*Therefore, let anyone who thinks that he stands take heed lest he fall."* That means it can and could happen to us, and we must be vigilant in this area and all others. The world is broken, our enemy is against us and our flesh is weak. The fact that you are a strong Christian does not make you immune to these traps.

2. ***Repentance of your pride and self-righteousness in this area.***

The Bible clearly teaches: "*Pride goes before destruction, a haughty spirit before a fall (Prov. 16:18)."* Every pastor I've ever known who has fallen into sexual sin was one who at one point believed he never would. So often, it is our

pride that allows us to "push the envelope" and think we are the exception to the rule. It is also pride that can keep us from getting the help we need so we could have avoided this particular fall in the first place. Most affairs don't begin on a whim. The seeds are sown in the soil of an unhappy or tumultuous marriage. Brothers, if there are currently problems in your marriage, please reach out to someone and deal with them now so you don't become a statistic later.

3. ***Put all the needed safeguards in place and keep them there.***

"The highway of the upright avoids evil; those who guard their ways preserve their lives (Prov. 16:17)."

All of us know this is true, but are we living as if it is true? We know we shouldn't be alone with a member of the opposite sex, but do we keep our rule faithfully? We know we should have working porn filters on our computers, but do we?

We can all agree that any of our practices can be cumbersome at times, but situations like this remind us that they are more than worth it. Please, brothers, for the sake of the Gospel and our churches, heed the warning today and employ whatever specific practices you need to keep yourself pure and your ministry intact.

4. ***Don't just have a plurality in place—have one in practice.***

Far too many churches have a plurality of elders on paper, but, in reality, have a senior pastor surrounded by "yes-men." This kind of unhealthy leadership system only aids in the conducting and concealing of sexual misconduct. If you are concerned about a member on your team, even if it is the most senior leader, please have the courage to sound the alarm. Of course, this should be done personally, honorably and hoping the best for all parties involved, but silence is often exactly what allows deeds done in secret to remain in secret for so long. Don't be afraid to ask the hard questions. Too much is on the line. On a similar note, this means we also have to practically "have the backs" of our teammates in ministry.

5. ***Make your wife your partner in purity.***

This is a tricky issue, and there is some legitimate debate over how "in the loop" she needs to be. My perspective is: Your wife needs to know enough to be prayerful, but not so much that she is paranoid. Practically, this means your wife needs to know that emotionally needy women are often attracted to pastors and those pastors don't notice what is happening right before their eyes. It also means she needs to know that regular intimacy with her is a helpful practice that can keep you from looking for it elsewhere.

It may also mean she may periodically check out your

phone or Facebook page for anything inappropriate. At a minimum, protecting each other's integrity should be a topic of regular conversation. How are you and your wife partnering together for the sake of each other's purity?

6. ***When in doubt, err on the side of caution.***

Most practically, this may mean you simply don't hire a female assistant. Some guys do it and things are fine, but plenty of guys do it and that is exactly where everything begins to unravel. For most lead pastors, their assistant works more closely with them than nearly anyone else in their lives and, in my view, that role being held by a member of the opposite sex is a risky endeavor. I do not recommend it. Also, unless there is some kind of extreme circumstance, I avoid being alone for so long with the opposite sex. In addition to the obvious accountability, it also affords extra mentoring time on the road for my younger people at Kingdom Glory Faith Ministries and other teenagers I get to influence in my country.

7. ***Never forget we are in a spiritual battle with real winners and losers***.

Though we may try to ignore it, we have three very real enemies (the world, the flesh and the devil) who are all more than happy to play their part in helping us flame out of ministry.

In my experience, it also seems that the kingdom of darkness is particularly benefited when a pastor goes

down because of moral failure because, like a grenade, it does damage on so many levels at once.

To help me in my own struggle for purity, I reflect on this painful truth often. I picture what would happen to my wife and church if I chose pride and pleasure over Jesus in a moment of weakness. It drives me to the Scriptures, my wife and my ministry team to help me stay the course. When is the last time you stopped to remind yourself of the battle we are fighting?

Brothers, time and time again, the Scriptures are clear: Sexual sin is both damaging and deadly to all it affects—especially we pastors. For the sake of all of us, please don't become a statistic.

Please pray for me and those closest to you that we don't become statistics. Please take the steps necessary to walk in integrity, and let's cross the finish line strong together for the glory of God and the good of our families, churches and the world around us. Remember the world is watching us.

Chapter Eight

The Kingdom Laws of Relationships

There are two types of relations. Inter-personal relationship and intra-personal relationships. Inter-personal relationship is a relationship between you and another person and this is what most people think of more often. But I am here to tell you that this kind of relationship is the wrong one to start with. The most important kind of relationship is intra-personal; which is a relationship between you and yourself. Until you outclass in intra-personal relationship, inter-personal will have no meaning. You will be frustrated and disappointed.

No one knows you better than you; no one will ever love you more than you; no one will ever appreciate you more than you. Your inter-personal relationship should be an

overflow of your intra-personal relationship. I have always said this and I can't help to repeat it here; you should never get married until you are single.

Singleness is a saga to me. We have given singleness a wrong brand. That is why I am single, even though I am married. It is alright to be single but it is not good to be alone. Singleness is a state to be pursued and not shunned. I will discuss this in another chapter. A law is a rule or set of rules for good behavior which is considered right and important by the majority of people for moral, religious or emotional reasons.

We must keep in mind that we cannot force anyone to love us the way we want. We should not beg someone to stay when they want to leave. That is what love is all about; freedom. Moreover, the end of love is not the end of life. It should be the beginning of an understanding that love sometimes leaves for a reason, but never leaves without a lesson. This may be because of the mistakes we make in relationship.

Mistakes are combinations of the things we miss and the things we take; thus 'Miss-take'. The most important part of the mistake is really to take what you missed. In other words, the most important thing you can do with a mistake is to learn from it. If someone truly loves you, they will never give you a reason to doubt it.

Anyone can come into your life and say how much they

love you, but it takes someone really special to stay in your life and prove how much they love you. Sometimes it takes a while to find the right person, but the right person is always worth the wait. Do not rush my friend, just take it slow. You will find someone who will love you the way you are. Stay with me as we explore the laws of a guy -girl relationship.

1. **The law of attraction.**

We are attracted to that which is hard to get, and we think little of that which is easily obtained. It still remains a mystery how two people from completely different backgrounds get attracted to each other and start a relationship. Frequently, one observes that people who are the complete opposite of each other are attracted to one another.

There is a strange fact about human nature. We value and prize that which is difficult to get and we treat lightly or despise that which is obtained with little or no effort on our part. You are attracted to the person who is hard to get and you think little of the person who chases you. My wife was a difficult girl to con. I received thousands of 'Nos' while pursuing her. That gave me momentum not to give up and at last I won the battle.

Some girls are so guy-crazy that they will write or call a guy on the phone and tell him they will be only too glad "to prove their love" for him. No decent guy like me

would be attracted to a girl with so little self-respect. The law of attraction works not only in the initial contacts but in the relationship as well. The primary reason why a guy drops a girl after she gives in to him is because he loses respect for her. The law of attraction operates. That which is obtainable becomes "cheap" in his sight. He is attracted to another girl who is not easily obtainable.

One reason why becoming involved sexually breaks up a relationship is that the girl expects too much. She thinks, "I have given myself to you completely, and I expect you to give yourself to me totally. I want you to be around when I need you. I want you to meet all my needs." It is almost like she thinks it is a marriage relationship and yet it is instead a "going together" relationship. The guy is greatly affected because he thinks, he is no longer pursuing but being pursued. He says to himself, "This is too much I have got to have some space!" Do not suffocate a relationship. If you love something, set it free. If it comes back to you, it is yours. If it does not, it never was yours. In relationship, you are attracted to the person who is hard to get and you run from the one who chases you.

2. **The law of self-image.**

Psalm 139:14, "*I will praise thee; for I am fearfully and wonderfully made Marvelous are thy works; and that my soul knows right well*."

This is a revelation of God's marvelous work in the creation

of a life in the mother's womb, and God's marvelous work in giving a man *faith* in his heart.

Marvelous - done with such skill and wisdom that it produces amazement.

Fearfully made - in such a way as to produce awe in a heart.

Wonderfully made - in an overwhelming manner.

What takes place, then, in conception and pregnancy and birth is not chance. It is not Mother Nature. Nor is it simply a man and woman's fertility. It is not simply the physical process of the combining of cells - meiosis. But it is the marvelous work of the hand of God.

Years ago, God chose a time and place to bring you into His plans and planet earth. He wanted to add some one unique and wonderful to the race of man. And that idea was you. God would not spend His energy and time to bring you on this earth if you were not priceless. He would have not allowed you to be conceived if He didn't have a purpose for you. In my second book; discovering your purpose, the bottom line is: Purpose is the key to your life's fulfillment.

We are controlled by the way we perceive ourselves inwardly. What you think about yourself is very important. It affects not only your happiness but also how you get along with other people. You are going to act out the way you see yourself. If you see yourself as not being worth

much, you are going to act that way. We all manage to remember all the put downs we have experienced. If somebody said to you; "You never do anything right!" You will always remember that.

More often young women have a personality disorder called anorexia. Even though they are not really overweight, they see themselves as being fat, and they become obsessed with the desire to lose weight. Many reach the point where they develop an aversion to food and simply stop eating, resulting in permanent damage to their bodies. But whether an idea is false or not, if we believe it, we will be controlled by it. The one of the reasons why teenagers get involved in sex is their desire for love and acceptance. The girl with a poor self-image is likely to say yes to any guy who shows her a little attention. She craves for someone to hold her close and tell her that she is worth something. If it takes sex to get that, then she is willing to give it.

Your self-image depends on how much respect you have for yourself and how much respect others have for you. You build respect by setting high standards and living up to them.

Nobody can make you "cheap" but you can make yourself cheap. Most large stores have bargain table. The stuff on that bargain table is cheap because it has been handled by many people. I one time came across a sticker on someone's car that stated: "Girls who say many guys are following me should put in mind that cheap commodities

in the market attract many customers."

Nobody can put you on the bargain table but you can put yourself there by allowing people to handle your body. I guarantee you that the law of self-image will work for you if you can see yourself as you really are-a person of priceless value. Every human being is priceless.

When you begin to see your value and value of other people, it will affect the way you relate to them. Guys, that girl you are going out with is more than just a sex object to give you pleasure and satisfy your sexual desires, and then be thrown away when you are tired of her. She is priceless human being with all her possibilities every person has. And you girls, to put it plainly, you are priceless, not just some guy's sex object. Begin to see yourself as you really are. You do not have to pretend that you are worth something; just believe the truth that you are priceless. Believe this and begin to act it out in your life.

3. **The law of difference.**

There is a basic difference in the way guys and girls think about love. Guys and girls are different in many ways, not only in obvious, outward differences in the way their bodies are made, but in many other ways as well. One basic difference between a guy and a girl is the way they think about love. A girl thinks of love in terms of romance. She wants a guy to love her, cherish her, listen to her, talk to her and put her on a pedestal. She wants

love, protection, commitment and security. A guy thinks of love differently. He thinks of it more in terms of sex. The focus of his attention is the physical body of a girl.

Girls listen to me: Just because a guy wants to have sex with you does not mean he loves you. I do not want to be too hard on the guys because I am one of them. But the fact is that most guys could enjoy sex with anything in a skirt! So do not get all excited just because some guy lets you know that he would like to have sex with you. Always in a girl-guy relationship, the girl is not primarily thinking about sex. She is seeking about romantic love. Many guys and girls cannot figure out what happened to their romance.

Everything was perfect when they commenced out, but now they do not see things in the same way. There are misunderstandings and arguments. The reason is they are coming from different direction. Someone said that; "A girl plays at sex, for which she is not ready, because what she wants is love. A guy plays at love, for which he is not ready, because what he wants is sex." What the girl primary wants is love. She wants someone to hold her and tell her that she is special-she wants a committed boyfriend who loves her-someone to talk to and to share her life with. Her love drive is mature. Her sex drive, however, is not mature. She is not yet ready for sex and all the dangers and problems that come with it. She knows that it is the girl who gets burned in these matters. She has a lot more

to lose than the guy and she is not ready for all the heavy stuff that goes with a sexual relationship. But she does not want to lose her boyfriend, so she 'plays at sex' to get the love she needs.

The guy on the other hand is not ready for love. He is not ready for lifelong commitment. He is not ready for all the responsibilities that go with being a husband and a father. His love drive is not mature at all. His sex drive however is mature. What does the guy do? He 'plays at love' in order to get what he primarily wants. He uses words of love and tells the girl what she wants to hear. I do not question his sincerity but the focus of his attention is on sex. He may sincerely think that he loves the girl but he does not understand real love. He does not realize how selfish he is in thinking only of his sexual needs. If a girl is not careful, things may get out of hand very quickly. She gives him an inch and he takes a mile. Before long, she is wondering if she is out with a sex maniac.

Whenever a couple becomes sexually involved and later breaks up, it is the girl who suffers. Even if there is no pregnancy, the break-up is much harder on her. One reason for this is he got what he wanted, but she did not get the love she wanted. She feels used. In fairness to guys, it should be said that often it is an aggressive girl who is putting the pressure on the guy. Some girls have little or no self-respect and they are relentless in their pursuit of guys. This confirms the proverb I came across years back

that says; "*It is better to fall from a tree and break your back than to fall in love and break your heart."*

4. **The law of progression.**

Through my study and research at the University, I came to flawless understanding that the greatest enemy of mankind is not sin or Satan but ignorance. It is not sin because sin was covered long before even man sinned. It is not either Satan because Satan is the most insignificant and manipulated spirit who is unemployed; he was fired from the company because of insubordination. He wanted to arrest the boss. So ignorance is the greatest enemy of man.

No wonder even God Himself said in Hosea 4:6 "*My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge*:" The devil will only come to rule the area in your life where you are ignorant. I have a well stock of library at my house, I read two books every month, and I invest most of my time in reading and studying. More often my friends ask me why all this reading and studying. Well, my answer is very simple. "I don't want to be stupid. Ignorance of the law is no defense." There is a progressive nature in sex-you tend to move toward greater physical intimacy.

There is not much that you can do and say to someone who has made up his mind to have sex. But most guys and girls want to do what is best for them. They have no intention of going all the way, but many of them will end

up doing it anyway. Why? Because they did not know about the progressive nature of sex. Ignorance! They did not know about the law of progression. When a guy and a girl spend time alone together, the relationship tends to move steadily toward greater physical intimacy.

To begin with, just being together with the person you love is a happy and satisfying experience. But along with this, is the desire for physical contact. The first physical contact in a guy-girl relationship is usually holding hands. This is exciting because it is physical contact and it feels great. Soon however, will be a desire for greater intimacy. The guy may put his arm around the girl. Then comes the first kiss. It may be a simple good night kiss, but for him, it is exciting and satisfying. That is brilliant, but the law of progression is working.

What satisfies you now, will not satisfy you later on. Each time you are alone, you start where you left off last time. The couple begin experimenting with "super kissing"-prolonged kissing. Then comes "French kissing"-kissing with your mouth open. You are now entering a phase where sexual desires are being aroused. Then comes prolonged sessions of hugging and kissing.

The more time you spend together, the more intimate you become. Then comes "petting." This is where the hands get into the act. Petting is handling each other's body parts normally covered by clothing. It does not include sexual intercourse. Petting is pleasurable to both the guy and the

girl, but it is dangerous because it arouses strong genital feelings. In marriage, this is the foreplay that prepares the couple for sex. But your body does not know and care whether you are married or not. The signal to your body is: Get ready for sexual intercourse.

Petting is followed by "heavy petting." Then comes mutual sex play in which the guy and the girl are touching and handling each other's intimate parts. Sexual passions are further aroused and the couple proceeds to sexual intercourse-something that should be reserved for marriage. This marks the end of the relationship as it once was.

Advice: How far is too far?

You are going too far when a guy's or a girl's hands start peripatetic and roaming. You are going too far when either of you starts removing clothing. Keep all of your clothing on all the time. You are going too far when you are doing something you would not want to be doing around someone you really respect.

You are going too far when you cannot make an intelligent decision as to what you should or should not do and carry out that decision.

Before you start dating, you need to set your guidelines as to how far to go. The only guideline that is 100% safe is: *Keep your hands off and your clothes on!*

5. **The law of harvest.**

You will reap what you sow! Every farmer knows the law of harvest. What he plants is what he will reap. If he plants maize, he will reap maize. If he plants oranges, he will reap oranges. What you sow is what you reap. Each of us is planting a "crop" with our lives. Our actions are the "seed." Sometime in the future we will reap a "harvest." That harvest will be according to our actions.

When you engage in sex outside of marriage, you are sowing seeds of immorality. At some future time, you will reap the harvest from what you are sowing. Someone may say, "But I don't believe in the law of harvest" Your believing or not believing in it will not affect its operation.

If you are going to be involved in sex outside marriage, then you should take all the "precautions" you can take. But taking precautions will not prevent the law of harvest from operating. You will reap what you sow! You may go for a long time and never get caught. There is no pregnancy, you do not get any disease, and no one discovers what you are doing. But the law of harvest says, "There will be harvest." This is true and it will happen. You will reap bitter fruit someday.

Handling Relationship

One of the number one causes of problems in the world today among the human beings is the problem of relationships. This is true in guy-girl relationships, work

relationships in churches, organizations, companies, governments and so forth. As said earlier, there are two types of relationships. Inter personal and intra personal relationship. However, these relationships still show up different descriptions.

1. Relationship with God.
2. Relationship with self. (Intra personal)
3. Relationship with others. (Inter personal)
4. Relationship with nature.

1. **Relationship with God.**

Man was originally created to have a relationship with God. However, sin messed up everything. In order to restore that relationship, man has to admit accountability for all his sins. Sin is independence. It is rejection of God's authority over our lives. Adam and Eve's failure to recognize the awfulness of sin destroyed their relationship with God.

We are obliged to work on restoring our relationship with God. We do this by acknowledging our personal guilt and committing ourselves to God through repentance. This results into eternal forgiveness and our relationship is perfected. See Isaiah 1:18.

God is not out to hurt us. He did not bring us this far to

leave us. Rather it is our response to Him that determines how we relate with Him. And God is willing to give us the strength to endure when we go through difficult times. When we fail, we should not become bitter and resentful towards God. It all goes back to renewing of our minds. *Romans 12:2.*

Vision is like pregnancy-it is a product of intimacy. As you develop intimacy with the Spirit of God through worship, prayer and meditating on God's Word, the womb of your Spirit is impregnated with the vision of God for your life. It commences to live and grow in you in preparations for its delivery. As you spend time in the presence of God, He begins to infuse in you His own heart, His passion and a burden for a certain segment of His creation- and that becomes your purpose discovered.

If we desire a lasting ministry of impact, then we should not ignore this type of relationship. You cannot give what you don't have. *(Acts 3:6).* Until God has reached you, you cannot reach anyone. Until He has touched you, you cannot touch anyone. The things you have not seen, touched, nor handled, can't impart to others. (*1 John 1:1, 3).* God calls us to Himself before He sends us out to others. God gives us Himself before He gives anything or anyone. *(Mark 6:*7).

Your ministry is a by-product of your relationship with God-this is a phenomenon principle. Obey it. Get in His presence. He wants to sense our presence before we

sense His. Commit in pursuing quality relationship with Him, investing time in prayer and searching His Word. His impact on your life will overflow to nations and generations after you.

2. Intra personal relationship

Just after your relationship with God, the next pertinent relationship is with yourself. That is what I call intra personal relationship and until you get your intra personal relationship sorted out, you will fail in the inter personal relationship. Many people rush into marriage because they are lonely. Jesus said love your neighbor as you love yourself. You cannot love me if you don't love you. If the most important person to you is you, the most valuable person to you is you, the most interesting person to you is you, the most loved person to you is you and you decide to give me you that means you have decided to give me what is most loved to you.

3. Inter personal relationship.

Your relationship with others may bring joy or anger. There is a vast of problems that come due to our way of handling interpersonal relationships. The way we talk, our integrity, character and accountability toward other people have lots to do with our -relationship.

Among the greatest source of problems in our inter-personal relationships are selfishness, greed, envy and pride. All these lead to fights over positions, honor and self-

recognitions. Half of my childhood life was spent in Kenya. And that is where I learnt Kiswahili language. Kiswahili has a way it brings this out clearly. "*Roho Mtakatifu*" meaning the Holy Spirit of God. "*Roho Mtakavitu*" meaning the spirit of possessions. "*Roho Mtakavita*" meaning the spirit of rebellion and "*Roho Mtakaviti*" meaning the spirit of positions. *Exodus 20:17.*

4. **Relationship with nature.**

God has gifted the earth with natural resources for use. There are natural resources like mountains, hills, vegetables and land for settlements and economic development. There are also water bodies like lakes, wetlands as well as minerals. We have domestic and wild animals, which are all subjects of God's natural universe. In other words, the world is full of natural resources. However, how we handle and utilize these resources determine our progress. God desires us to be good stewards over these natural resources. Land is a fixed factor of production.

Without land, development cannot take place. No single nation can claim independence without land ownership. Part of our stewardship is being creative in the utilization of resources. You have to start doing something. Believe that you have the potential to create something which your generation will benefit from.

The Garden of Eden where God placed man in the beginning was a wealthy place. It was an awesome

atmosphere, a spot for the moment where the presence of God was an open door to heaven. Then God told man to till and cultivate the ground. That meant that man was supposed to bring out the best around him. We should participate in production because laziness brings poverty.

Chapter Nine

Principles of Dating and Relationships

A guy and his girlfriend went to commit suicide on top of a 10 story building so that God can officiate their wedding in heaven. The plan was to jump off the building at the same time at the count of three. So after the count, the guy jumped off but the girl didn't jump. She looked back and said "though love is blind, I am not blind". She then walked away. As the guy got in the air, he opened his parachute and said "though I am madly in love, I am not mad to die for love".

When some people are in love, it's like their brain stops functioning. They do abnormal things. They make promises without coherent considerations. We should always allow our brain to control our emotion and not

vice versa. Don't be too excited; don't be carried away.

It still remains a mystery how two people from completely different backgrounds get attracted to each other and start a relationship. It is even more puzzling when the two come from different cultural groups. It amazed me how I got attracted to my wife who is from completely a different culture.

Frequently, one observes that people who are the complete opposite of each other are attracted to one another. However, after close examinations of the dynamics of attraction, one cannot fail to notice that even when two people look so different to the observer, they have a lot in common that initially attracts them to each other. No wonder, "Birds of the same feathers flock together." I want to explore with you some of the basic principles to consider in dating and courtship. But before I do that, let us consider some problem situations to critically consider before entering into a relationship with some.

Some problem situations.

The institution of marriage has enough challenges of its own without adding others you carry over to it. When the issues I am going to share here exist in your relationship, you should not go into marriage before addressing them.

1. **Big age difference.**

The man: In many of our African societies, the fact that a man is older than the woman he marries is not viewed as a problem at all. Many women prefer to be married to men who are older than themselves for different reasons. One of them is that a good number of women think that a man younger than themselves will not be mature enough to be the head of their family. Certain biological functions in girls mature earlier than those in boys. It is presumed that a man who is older has probably acquired materially to take care of a wife who has more security needs.

Now, whatever the age difference, I think it is advisable that two people intending to get married be at least in the same development age bracket as under:

Young Adulthood: 20/25 to 26/30 years.
Early Middle Adulthood: 31/35 to 40/45 years.
Late Middle Adulthood: 46/50 to 55/60 years.
Late Adulthood: 55/60 to 65/70 years.
Retirement: 65/70 and above
PS. My modified version of Eric Erickson's psychological development stage

When someone in the early middle adulthood stage marries one in the late middle adulthood stage, there are likely to be development problems. The task in either of

these stages is different and the couple will not be prepared on how to help each other.

The woman: In our African setting, the age of the woman matters a lot especially with regards to children. Not having children is like fruitless garden and a great failure in marriage. Many people believe that marrying an older woman means that she will be unable to produce children. The older she grows and stays unmarried, the more "she is killing her children or losing her fertile eggs". Her child-bearing years become fewer the older she becomes.

Some women fear the prospect of being mistaken for the husband's mother on account of her aging looks. There is a feeling among many people that a woman should look younger than the husband. Nevertheless, that is the African setting but not God's standard. I have read the Bible about the first marriage in Eden and I have not found anywhere it talks of how old Adam was when Eve showed up and how old Eve was before she got married to Adam. For a man to be older than the woman is no real news. Conversely, a woman will feel really bad if she is told that she looks older than her husband. The husband will definitely resent it if he is told that his wife looks older than him.

A dissimilarity or difference of six to ten years in the same development stage is acceptable. For instance, a girl of 24 years can marry a man aged 32; someone who is 36 years

can marry someone of 44 years old. Clinical examples indicate that there would be challenges if someone of 20 years marries one who is 34 years old (A difference of 14 years).

2. **Educational differences.**

When a man marries a woman who is less educated than himself, there are comparatively no too many challenges since this gives that man a more secure and prominent position as the head of his home. More education in most cases means more income, a thing that works well for men. Where the woman is the one with more education, there will be need for sensitivity on her part and security on the part of her man for the marriage to work well.

The man might have to work through feelings of insecurity, self-understanding and self-acceptance in order not to see his wife as a threat to him on account of educational differences. Women tend to accept and be proud of their spouses when they are more educated and are doing well. A much bigger challenge is posed when the woman is more educated and consequently earns more money than the man.

What is advisable in this situation is for the couple to sit down and talk freely and openly; talk about any fears, real or imagined and pledge to support each other. There are marriages with this challenge that have worked. Conversely, a good number of marriages are on the rocks

these days on account of this. What is important is dialogue and when there is impasse; counsel should be sought in good time.

3. **Personality differences.**

Whereas it is true that "Birds of same feathers flock together", sometimes "Opposites attract each other." (Mayhall 1990). A tall man will look for a short girl. A dark man will look for a light skinned girl; a slim girl will desire a heavy guy etc. An extrovert (Someone who talks a lot) will be attracted to an introvert (Someone who does not speak much). It normally happens that these same traits that initially attract you to your spouse will be the same one that will become points of disagreement in marriage. That is because the traits in another person are new to you and that will take some time to get used to them. It takes time to a lot of patience to get used to someone whose personality is totally different from yours.

There are four types of personality. The choleric who are fast paced and task oriented; the Sanguine who are fast paced and people oriented; the Phlegmatic who are slow paced and people oriented and finally the Melancholy who are slow paced and task oriented. If you know who you are, you definitely know what you want and if you know what you want, you also know what you don't want.

For example, my personality is High Sanguine and low phlegmatic. I needed someone who is high phlegmatic

and either low choleric or low melancholy as my wife. I finally got her. My wife is High phlegmatic and low melancholy; exactly what I needed. High sanguine ladies came my way but could not win my heart. Why? I knew what I wanted and what I did not want. All these are in my book: *Discovering the purpose of your existence.* If you don't have one, write to me and I will send you one.

4. **Religious differences.**

The scriptures teach that Christians should not be unequally yoked with unbelievers. 2 Corinthians 6:14. Let me draw four deductions from this particular text.

- Righteousness cannot have fellowship with unrighteousness.
- Light has no communion with darkness.
- Christ has no concord with Belial.
- A believer can have no part with unbeliever. The temple of God has no agreement with idols. The word used "Agreement" is a political term with the thought of working together.

If you have a similar faith, you will be able to pray together, perhaps go to the same church, serve God together and bring up any children God will give you in a common faith and practice. It is unwise to deliberately choose to go into marriage with someone who holds different views about God. After God created the first man Adam, the

first place he put him was in Eden. This word Eden is an important word in the Bible. Eden is not a place. That is why archeologist cannot find it. In Hebrew language, Eden means a presence, a spot, an environment or an atmosphere. Eden in Hebrew manuscript means; "*A spot for the moment where the presence of God is an open door to heaven."* The first place that God placed man was in His presence. So the best place to find a partner for a life-long marriage relationship is in *His presence*, not in the Disco.

Another type of religious difference occurs across denominations or other religious faiths. For example, a Christian marrying a Muslim or a protestant marrying a catholic. There are also some major challenges when a Seventh Day Adventists who worships on Saturdays, observes quite a number of dietary habits marries someone who worships on Sundays and has no dietary inhabitations. A lot of counseling is needed to help the couple address these differences before marriage.

5. **Economic differences.**

When a man earns more money than his wife, this is considered success and security. The man will probably feel satisfied with himself that he is able to provide for his family. Headship does not make much sense when the head does not provide. The wife is supposed to be a helper. Women come equipped to help. But if they find a man who is not doing anything, that means they have nothing to help with and so they will eventually help themselves.

They will start their own business and do extra ordinaries and she will be seen as a threat to the man's headship in some cases. This is enigmatic.

With the women's emancipation today, women's educational and employment opportunities, there are now a good number of women who earn good money, more than their husbands. In a marriage where this is the case, the woman has to be very sensitive and wise so that she does not make the man feel insecure than he is already feeling. Comments on how the money is spent should be uttered with much caution. Matters related to how the management of family finances like who will control the money, will have to be discussed candidly. The husband will have to work through feelings of insecurity and inferiority as these can lead to abusing and being unreasonable toward his wife.

What needs to be done in this case is not to restrict each other but to allow for the potential and gifts in each other to grow. It is very much necessary to learn to think as a couple and not as individuals and learn to face your strengths and weaknesses together. There is no need for a man with a capable, good-income earning wife to be afraid of her.

God designed a woman to be a compatible helper for the man. Everything in her is designed to help. Now, it is tragic that the last thing many men want women to believe is that they need their help. Many men today don't run

their families well because they walk around saying, "I am the final authority". Men, we need to understand the true nature and purpose of women. If you don't understand why something is the way it is, you will become suspicious of its nature. Sometimes the help that a woman brings a man is interpreted as a threat. He sees it as her trying to take his position. So when a woman wants to be part of what the man is doing, he thinks she is interfering and yet she is what she is because if why she was created. She wants to know what you are doing so that she can help with.

Many women who are kept at a distance by men keep on reaching out, trying to help but men see them as a nuisance, saying, "Mind your own business. This is the man's world. Find your own place." Well, her place is just right next to you, helping you. If she can't help you, she will help something or someone else. Here is the bottom line: you are not a strong man until you handle the weight of a real woman.

6. **Bringing a child into the marriage.**

The presence of a child from former relationship before marriage poses a number of challenges which must be looked into. If the man is the one bringing the child into relationship, most of our patrilineal cultures do not seem to raise many problems. He can easily convince his fiancée to accept the child and in most cases, she will. She will briskly adopt the child as hers and she will take

care of him/her like her own even though there will be some adjustment problems. But if in a patrilineal culture, the woman is the one with a child, a number of issues will arise. Some men will deliberately refuse to take any further plans with the relationship as he cannot tolerate bringing up another man's child. They will either end the relationship or strategically state that the child will not be part of the relationship. The woman has the option of either arranging to leave the child with her parents or relatives or let go of the relationship.

However, some men do accept their fiancée's child as their own and will arrange for adoption. Only that few men do this.

Principles of effective relationship

Everything in life starts and ends with relationships. Imagine trying to build wealth without others. Imagine trying to be happy without others. Imagine trying to learn without others.

Our very existence starting from the womb has relied on our relationships to others. But there are no rule books for relationship building. We grow up learning to read and write hoping our connection skills learned on the playground are good enough to get by.

If your wealth, education, love, and even happiness is contingent on others, imagine what would happen if you upgraded the way built and engaged your relationships?

Your life would change right in front of your eyes.

I believe there are certain principles for building meaningful relationships. I have perceived these principles show up no matter what. I believe they are universal rules. They apply no matter what culture you are in, where in the world you may be, or what time in history it is.

Here are the seven principles that govern relationships. They are fundamental and critical for life, love, and business.

1. ***Our inter-personal relationships are a reflection of our intra-personal relationships.***

Our experience of life on the outside is a reflection of the internal relationship we have with ourselves.

If you operate from scarcity, believe people are out to screw you, and you are not worthy of receiving, how will your relationships look? But if you are abundant, believe people want to help you, and you deserve, what will your relationships look like?

Meaningful relationships are a reflection of the way we build relationships with ourselves.

This is also why I believe in bringing interpersonal work into business strategy. While the give methodology is a business methodology for growing sales through relationships with our clients and partners, the success of these relationships are based on our ability to develop a

relationship with ourselves. The interpersonal work is as important, if not much more important than the strategy.

2. ***Focus your mindset on giving unconditionally.***

Have you ever met someone that you felt an instant connection to? And have you ever met someone you disliked right away? What lets you know to like someone and what lets you know to dislike someone?

Every relationship happens in three layers. The first layer is what can be observed on the outside. The second is what is happening in the conscious minds of both people. And third is what is happening in the subconscious minds of both people. It is in this mind where the subconscious is scanning two million items of information every second for anything that lets them know it is unsafe.

When we focus on giving unconditionally, we unconsciously align our body movements, posture, tone of voice, and the words we use with the best interests of the other person.

3. ***Serve others how they want to be served.***

This is an upgrade from the golden rule- "do unto others as you want done unto you". Instead, it should read, "do unto others as they want done unto them."

While serving others the way we want to be served in theory makes sense, it assumes that others experience what we want in the same way we do. This is in fact not

true. In order to build the life meaningful relationships, you have to commit to identifying what others need, and serve them how they want to be served.

4. ***A relationship must be "give and receive."***

Sometimes it is really easy to focus on giving unconditionally and serving others the way they want to be served. But it can be really hard to receive.

A relationship is a two-way boulevard. With only one person giving and not receiving, it's not a relationship.

When we deny the ability for the other person to give, we deny them principles "Focus your mindset on giving unconditionally" and "Serve others how they want to be served". Therefore, we have an obligation to receive just as much as we have an obligation to give.

5. ***Get on people's maps (empathize).***

It is easy to assume we understand what others mean when they use the same words that we do. But what their words mean might be completely different than what those same words mean to you. For example, if someone said, "I'm going to make $150,000 this year." You might interpret that as being a lot of money, but they may be worrying about how they are going to pay their bills.

Each person has their own map for how they experience the world and until you can empathize with others from

their viewpoint, you are not truly building a relationship (the root word "relate" being a key point).

We don't know until we focus on learning how the other person experiences the world. This is their map.

When you can learn how the other person sees the world through their beliefs about it, you can start to connect in a whole new way.

6. ***Always make others feel safe.***

So many interactions are unsafe for others. Without safety, the other person can never truly open up and be vulnerable.

Imagine trying to hang out with someone who is afraid he/she is in danger. Will they be focused on connecting? Will they present? Will they talk about things that are meaningful? Of course not, they will be focused on not dying.

As silly as this might sound, when we feel unsafe, we remain in fight or flight until the perceived danger is gone. Just like keeping the engine of the car running permanently in case you need to drive away in a hot second.

It's our jobs to focus on ensuring others feel safe, so we can bring them into a place where they will open up and share the most meaningful parts of them. This is where real bonds are formed.

7. ***Honor all behavior because it always has an intended positive outcome, no exceptions.***

This is perhaps the hardest principle to accept but is also the most important.

Every single behavior, from the most joyful to the most horrendous, has an intended positive outcome.

There are two main drivers of behavior- pain and pleasure. We humans always make the best available choice at any given time between these two choices. Often, the choices are both painful so we will always take the less painful choice.

For example, why did so many men run out into walls of machine gun fire during D-day in World War II? Because while that was an extremely painful option, not running out and letting down their country or potentially being shot by their commander in the boat was far more painful.

While this principle doesn't excuse hurtful behavior, it allows for you to empathize with others. If they had a better more pleasurable option, they would be making it. But when people do things that are not seen favorably, just remember it's the best available option to them. If they had a better one, they would have taken it.

This is by far the hardest principle to accept but it's one that is also the most empowering one of them all. If you can own this and allow it to guide your interactions, you

can free yourself from outcomes due to the behavior of others.

Keep these principles top of mind as you interact with others. Your success relies on relationships with your clients, partners, associates, and community. The more you can build and strengthen these relationships, the more abundance you will create both in dollars to your business but also in your experience of life.

Chapter Ten

Understanding the Sex Drive

Sex is an appetite, one of many appetites that God built in to us when He created us. Whether we call them drives, desires, hungers, passions, or whatever, they are still appetites. We have an appetite for food, an appetite for water, an appetite for sleep, an appetite for sex, an appetite for God—you name it. All of these are perfectly normal. God designed us for appetites anyway.

The strength of any appetite is determined by the degree to which the capacity for that appetite has been activated. All appetites begin at a capacity level of zero. The ability for an appetite is always present, but its capacity will be zero until it is activated. A baby develops an appetite and capacity for food even before it is born as nourishment flows to it from the mother through the umbilical cord.

That's why the very first thing a baby wants to do after it is born is to feed—its food appetite has been activated.

Although a newborn infant knows food hunger, its capacity is still low. A baby is hungry only for what its appetite has been activated for. Infants accustomed to liquid nourishment through the umbilical cord before birth and breast milk or formula and bland baby food afterwards have no craving for salt or other spices, or for sugar or any other kind of sweets. Those appetites are dormant until they are activated. Parents activate those appetites in their children by introducing them to seasoned foods and to cake, candy, and other sweet treats. Until then, a child has no appetite—and therefore no desire—for them. I remember after my daughter Janny was born, she never ate or drunk any seasoned food for six months. I never thought that a toddler could stay for such long as six months feeding only on its mother's breast milk. My daughter stunned me. But now, she crunches food like engine.

The reason we get hungry is because chemicals in our stomach and digestive tract become active and signal our brain that we need food. Depending on how long it has been since we last ate, and other factors such as the kinds of foods we crave, our appetite capacity rises accordingly. Our sense of hunger will continue to grow until we satisfy it by eating. Once satisfied, our appetite falls off until it is reactivated when it is time to eat again. An interesting thing

happens, however, to an appetite that is left unsatisfied: Eventually it falls off anyway. People who enter into an extended fast quickly discover this.

The longest fast I have ever gone for, dry, without eating or drinking was for seven days. The first two days were the toughest days in that fasting plug-in. After those two days, the remaining days were fun. In other words, the earliest days of a fast are the hardest because our appetite for food has to be re-adjusted. After our body adapts, the fast is easier.

My point is this: Not only can we satisfy our appetites, we also can control them. Every appetite is like that. Our hungers and cravings are subject to our will. This is just as true for our sexual appetite as for any other. Paul made this clear in his first New Testament letter to the believers in the Asian city of Thessalonica when he wrote: *"It is God's will that you should be sanctified: that you should avoid sexual immorality; that each of you should learn to control his own body in a way that is holy and honorable"* ***(1 Thess. 4:3-4).***

What makes this passage even more interesting is that the Greek word skeuos ("body") also could be understood to mean "wife." In this sense, then, Paul would be saying that husbands should learn to *"live with their own wives in a way that is holy and honorable."* Either way, the emphasis is on controlling one's sexual appetite, reserving it for expression exclusively in the context of a marriage relationship.

As a young person grows into adulthood, he or she becomes aware of a powerful new force in the body. This new powerful force is the sex drive. The appetite for sex is something God created within us. This appetite never dies unless otherwise. Whether you are a Pastor, priest, Bishop, Teacher, Doctor or whoever you are. It is not dirty or evil. The sex drive was God's idea-not ours. He created those hormones within us to make the opposite sex appealing to us. Sex as God intended it to be is beautiful.

Everything that God creates is good. Ponder with me a person driving a car. The driver reaches a place in the road where he must choose either to turn left or right. To his left he sees a large sign that says, "One Way, Do Not Enter" The driver makes his decision and turns left, in direct opposition to what the sign told him to do. He is now going the wrong way down the street, breaking the law and risking injury to himself and others. This is similar to the choices we must make regarding our sex drive.

The sex drive is not sinful, but God tells us that we need to control this desire. He has stated many times in the Bible that we are to keep our selves pure and to save our body for the person we will marry someday. We sin when we choose to satisfy the sex drive in a wrong way. Remember this. The most precious gift that God ever gave mankind is the gift of will and the most dangerous gift that God ever gave mankind is again the gift of will. It

is precious because God gave man the same powers that He possesses. It is however dangerous because man can even choose against the will of the one who gave Him the will.

God's original purpose was to use the will of man to bring about His will on earth. That is why Matthew 6:9 says; "*…Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven…*"

The sex drive as God planned it:

God created all living creatures with the ability to reproduce themselves. Animals have a powerful sex drive which brings the male and female together for sex. However, in the case of the animals, the sex drive is seasonal. The female will accept the male only during the time when she is on heat. The rest of the time, she has no interest in sex. Apparently, in the case of animals, God intended the sex drive to be only for the purpose of reproduction.

With human, it is different. God gave us the sex drive both as a means of reproduction and as a means by which a husband and a wife can express to the fullest their love for each other. Actually, there are several ways God could have made us. He could have made us with only a seasonal sex drive such as the animals, but this would have given only limited enjoyment of sex. He could have made us with a constant sex drive, but this would have made life unbearable. God had something better for us

than either of these ways. He made us with a potential and prospective sex drive which can be activated by stimulation. This means that the husband and the wife can live together without being controlled by their sexual appetite. But they can, at the proper time, stimulate each other's sexual desires. Within marriage, the powerful sexual desires which are aroused when a husband and a wife stimulate each other can be satisfied legitimately in sexual intercourse. That is the way God intended it to be.

But the same powerful desires and passion can be aroused outside marriage. In this case, there is no legitimate outlet for those aroused desires. To stop short of sexual intercourse leads to frustration and to go on leads to fornication. This is why the Bible warns on stimulating the powerful sex desires outside marriage.

Sex is the wonderful gift of God, but not 'the fires of sexual passion' unless you have the proper outlet for the tremendous physical and emotional pressures that are built up. The only safe and proper outlet which the Bible recognizes is marriage. So, marriage is the only firm foundation that can handle the consequences or outcomes of sex; for example, children. Outside of marriage, it is wrong to arouse and stimulate sexual desires.

Men are stimulated visually.

All our senses play a part in sexual stimulation but there is a difference in the way guys and girls react. Girls are

stimulated primarily by touch, but guys are stimulated by what they see as well as by touch. A girl in a tight skirt, a revealing blouse and big hot booty can excite a guy sexually. Some girls know this. They know just how to dress, how to walk, how to sit and move so as to stimulate guys. This is wrong because it causes the guys to think sinful thoughts. A girl may try to excuse herself by saying, "If they do not have evil minds, they would not think those thoughts.

"It is a sin to cause someone to sin. Looking at lustful pictures, watching pornographic magazines, listening to music with a bit and words designed to produce lust and going to a movie filled with lustful Scenes-All of these are things which "build the fires" of sexual lust and passion. ***Romans 13:14***. That is why I am personally so much conscious to whomever I spend my time with and to whatever I look at. The eyes are gate ways to your soul.

Your soul is the integration of your mind, your will and your emotions. So the soul receives from the body and deposits to your spirit. The spirit only receives what the soul gets from the body. If the spirit wants to talk to the body, he speaks to the soul and the soul talks to the body. Sometimes the body gives the soul what the spirit does not want and the spirit tells the soul to tell the body what the body does not want to hear. Now Problem! The person who is in trouble is the Soul. It is what I call the battle of the mind.

Sex is never an accident

In my understanding of the sex drive, we can deny the sex drive without suffering any harmful effects whatsoever. I have attended a number of funerals but I have never heard any report of the deceased having died due to abstinence from sex. The sex drive is different from the hunger drive in that you cannot survive very long without eating, but you can deny the sex drive very indefinitely without any ill effects. Without doubt in my heart, sex is important, but sex is never an emergency. I have seen many successful people who have gone through their entire lives without sexual intercourse and still have full, happy lives.

A special word to my fellow guys: A young man has strong sexual desires as he grows into manhood. His body is producing sperms by the hundreds of thousands. These sperms are stored in his body. If he is unmarried and living a life of purity, there will be times when his store house is overfilled. God has so designed the human body that, when this happens, the surplus is discharged during sleep. Biologically, this is known as a nocturnal emission or wet dreams. This is perfectly normal for a young man and nothing to be ashamed of. It should be, in fact, a matter of thanksgiving to the Lord for the relief it gives.

Whether you realize it or not, you are growing up in a dangerous world. Satan is called the god of this world because behind the prospect, he is the evil one controlling things. His world system is designed to destroy your mind,

your body, your relationship, your purpose, your plans and your eternal destiny. As the matter of facts, Satan is not so much after your body but he is so much after your soul. I figured it out why. He knows that whoever controls a soul, controls man. That is why when Jesus came on earth, the first words that came out of His mouth when He began ministry were: "Repent, for the Kingdom of God is at hand". To repent is to change your mind. What makes up your soul? Your mind, emotion and will. Jesus knew that whoever controls your soul controls you. The devil also knows this. So my job in this book is to work on your mind.

Most teenagers do not go around looking for trouble but it is easy to make wrong decisions. The penalties of sin always surprise young people. No matter how many good decisions you make, you are always only one decision away from doing something that you will regret for the rest of your life. If you choose to live your life on the principles of pleasing yourself, some day you may be sorry. But if you ask God for wisdom, He will guide you. As a teenager, I was faced with a number of temptations day after day.

I had a fleet of girls who wanted to have sex with me. Wherever I went, I was a celeb because of my God-given gifts. I was an actor, I was a drummer, I was a musician, Scripture Union Chairperson, a College Pastor, a key board player and many others. These anchors attracted me to many ladies. What kept me safe was the clear

understanding of my Purpose and these things would interrupt it. Sex would give me children I was not ready to pay for. I had also earlier on written my vision down as who I want to become and where I want to be in future. So each time I thought about my vision, I would gain momentum of avoiding anything that would hinder and interfere its fulfillment. So, today, I am what God created me to be and where He wanted me to be because I made a decision. I am internationally impacting thousands of the posterity, teenagers and children workers because I documented my vision on paper. Above all, I discovered my purpose of living on this planet.

Purpose is the key to fulfillment. Better discover the reason of your existence now and start living to fulfill it. Time is running out. I do not have much time on earth. My time is very short on this planet. When I was born from the bush on 28th June 1990, my mother was smiling but I was crying. From then, I determined to live my life effectively that on my deathbed, it will be my turn to smile when my mother and everyone else present will crying. Why smile? Because I will surely "*Have finished the work that you gave me to do*" (John 17: 3-4).

The value of life is not in its duration but its donation. It does not matter how long you lived. What matters is what you did while you lived in your generation. The greatest loss in life is not when someone dies; but what dies while someone lives.

Chapter Eleven

Sex Before Marriage

Like it or not, we all make decisions continually. The fact is: you can make 99 good decisions and make a single bad one, and spend the rest of your time regretting it. There are always good reasonable reasons for saying No to sex before marriage. I can sum them up in this general statement: You will reap what you sow.

"Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man sows, that shall he also reap. For he that sows to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that sows to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting." ***Galatians 6:7-8***

There is an old saying that I used to hear when I was still a teenager. It goes; "Eat, drink and be merry, for tomorrow we die." The problem with this is that we do not usually

die "tomorrow." Tomorrow comes and you are still alive. Instead, we live to reap the fruits of our actions. Sex before marriage comes with a number of impacts. But before we look at the bitter fruits of premarital sex, let me make some general statements about premarital sex. You can never ever have the best of sex outside marriage.

The book of Proverbs 7 has strange verses in 26, 27 which reads" *Many are the victims she has brought down; her slain are a mighty throng. Her house is a highway to the grave, leading down to the chambers of death."*

Many agents of darkness have gone into the world now and many people are being robbed of their destinies as a result of simple sexual intercourse. Many people who are struggling with their destiny now can be traced to the sex they have had with several different demonically possessed men or ladies. It is what I call Sexually Transmitted Demons (STDs). So many club girls are demonically possessed with the demons of the night which are called incubus and succubus.

Incubus: An evil spirit that lies on persons in their sleep; especially one that has sexual intercourse with women. ***Succubus*:** A demon assuming female form to have sexual intercourse with men in their sleep.

These demons are demons of sexual perversion which can enter into ladies operating as commercial sex worker or men who love sleeping with different girls. Demons

cannot have sex because they are spirits but they can transform into human to be able to deal with their target. And they have only one purpose which is to destroy the destiny of their target.

Only sex with your husband or wife is a sexual intercourse which is holy, which is without shame and regret. There is always a string which the devil uses that pulls you to your sexual partners if you keep in touch with them after marriage. The memories of all your sexual escapades have a way of resurfacing when you are having sex with your spouse.

You have a 95% tendency of comparing your spouse's libido with your sex mates which is not healthy for your sex life in marriage. You can have countless number of people you have had sex with before marriage if you don't stop now. The moment you are jilted or dumped, you wish you never had sex with that person. Men only have raw, wild and rough sex with ladies who worth nothing to them.

No responsible married man will treat his wife like that. Real men make love with their wives. If he doesn't love you, sex can never win his heart for you. Sex does not produce love. He can always get great sex anywhere. If he threatens to quit the relationship because you want to remain pure, then he wants nothing more from you than sex. Abstinence doesn't kill; if it does, I would have died long time ago. You are in bondage and need deliverance

if he says he is leaving you and you are using sex to keep him, what happens when he gets enough?

If a lady seduces you, know you are dinning with Delilah. Your matrimonial bed is not safe. Don't marry her. God created sex and He wants you to enjoy it for life in marriage. Very soon in your marriage, there will be nights when you will turn your back at your husband/wife and say "Honey please, leave me, allow me to sleep, I am not in the mood tonight". You will get tired! Don't rush into what you may have more than enough at the right time. You can never ever enjoy sex with a condom neither can you enjoy unsafe sex without fears, guilt and shame.

Condom cannot protect you from curses and familiar spirits. Actually sex with a condom may protect you from Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STDs) but not from Sexually Transmitted Demons (STDs). You become one flesh and one spirit with whomever you have sex with. Sex is a bond that ties a man and woman for life. God planned it so. Stop sex for a season and see if he will still stay with you and love you more like never before. I doubt it. Sad enough, some men wish for a virgin (fresh blood) when they are set to get a wife yet they dis-virgined over a dozen! Quite unfair.

Bitter fruits from pre-marital sex

Let us consider some of the bitter fruits that come from sex before marriage.

1. Mental Agony.

For a young girl who finds herself pregnant, there are few choices and none of them are good. Many choose abortion, thinking that this offers a quick and easy solution. It may be quick but it is not an easy solution. Abortion is terminating the destiny of someone. It is nothing but cold murdering of an innocent blood (if you assist a girl to abort by giving her money or any aid, blood will speak against you). It is sin because it sabotages God's purpose which also results into long-term guilt and mental agony. I will say what I have said before.

God predetermined your purpose before you were formed in the womb. He told Jeremiah: (Jeremiah 1:4-5) Paul also spoke of a pre-birth separation to a purpose. (Galatians 1:15-16) It was also said of John the Baptist; (Luke 1:15, Luke 1:41) And Jacob and Esau: (Gen 25:23)

I don't support abortion for a number of reasons: If my mother aborted me, you would not be reading my book now; this book would have died a premature death. But what is God's view about life in the womb? God talked to Rebecca about the two boys in her womb, calling them nations and declaring the outcome of their lives before they were born. God saw them as two humans with unique purposes and potentials. The plans for these children predated their conception. This concept of pre-birth purpose is not isolated to one particular passage, but one that runs through the Bible entirety. Psalms also

alluded to it: ***Psalms 139:13-16***

You can see that lots of God-activities go on before a child is born. God knows unborn children and ordains them for a purpose. He declares how their lives should be and can fill them with His spirit from the womb. They can sense things in the womb and react to them. God separates children in the womb for unique purposes to be fulfilled when they are born. He wonderfully creates them to the specifications of what it would take for them to fulfill their purposes.

With so much activity going on in the womb, pregnant women should be seen as destiny carriers. They are carrying the future of the world and God's plan. The future great preachers, scientists, politicians, inventors, problem-solvers.

People with specific answers to the problems of the world are residing now in pregnant women. With the termination of any of these lives, the world loses something. Let this be an encouragement to you if you are pregnant. Bless your unborn child continually. Let it be an admonition if you are considering an abortion. Don't terminate that destiny. Don't kill that Great Pastor. Don't decimate that inventor. God knows more about who you are carrying in your womb than you do. Listen to Him, beloved.

Let me speak to your spirit. Let it be an inspiration to you reading this book that your life is not without meaning.

You are not an accident of unprotected sex. There are no illegitimate children, only illegitimate parents. No matter the circumstances surrounding your conception, you were in His mind. You are not a nuisance. You are special in His plan. Never judge your destiny by the location of your birth. No matter *where* you were born from, *how* you were born and *who* born you, you have a *why* you were born. And the why is more substantial than where, how and who.

2. Pregnancy.

One of the bitter fruits of premarital sex is pregnancy. It is easy to think that it may happen to someone else but not you. Listen, as long as you have the tools necessary, it can happen to you, however spiritual you are. This is so absurd because, becoming a victim does not need you to have money to buy anything.

3. Big problems for young mothers.

A high percentage of unwed, pregnant teenage girls drop out of school and end up with low-paying jobs or on welfare. Those who decide to keep their babies find life so hard. The offspring of teenage mothers have high rates of illness and mortality as infants. Later, as they grow up, they often experience educational and emotional problems. Many are victims of child abuse because of the immaturity of their parents.

4. Problems after marriage.

One of the most disastrous impacts of premarital sex is that a person can have a bad experience and get so turned off on sex, that when they get married, they do not accept and enjoy the sexual side of marriage.

Another disastrous result of sex before marriage is the problems caused by flashbacks, memories and hallucinations. Whether you realize it or not, the sexual experiences you have before marriage are stored in your mind's computer. Later on, even if you are happily married, you can have flashbacks in which you will remember vividly those premarital sexual experiences. Those re-runs in the theater of your mind can cause serious problems.

5. Sexually transmitted diseases.

Every day, hundreds of thousands of every people become infected with a sexually transmitted disease (STD). One tragedy with sexually transmitted diseases is that people can have them, not know it and pass them on to others. Usually, you cannot tell by someone's appearance if he/she has a sexually transmitted disease. Often, it is a person whom you would least expect. It could be that good-looking, well-dressed, church-going guy or girl-one you would trust the most.

It only takes one encounter with the wrong person and you are infected. Some sexually transmitted diseases are incurable. STDs can cause blindness, brain damage, heart

disease and permanent damage to the reproductive organs.

It has been said that sex is spontaneous and is based on the passion of the moment and not on thought or reason. Young people do not worry about AIDS and other STDs because they think it will never happen to them. Unfortunately, it does happen to them. Every day young people by the thousands become infected with one of the dreadful, sexually transmitted diseases.

Like everyone else, young people pay the price of immoral sex. Like others, they think, "This may happen to someone else, but not me." And like others, they are in a state of shock when they discover that they have an incurable, sexually transmitted disease. Aside from the grief and tragedy that it brings to the person who has it, it is even sadder to think of the innocent babies who contract a sexually transmitted disease from their mothers and suffer from it all their lives. There are over fifty STDs and new ones are cropping up each year. We will look at just three of the most common STDs affecting young people.

(a) Genital Herpes:

Herpes is a relatively new disease which is highly infectious. Symptoms usually show up within 2-30 days after having sex. However, some people have no symptoms at all, yet they have the disease. Herpes is caused by a virus entering the body through a break in the skin or mucous membrane. It produces painful, itching blisters on the

sex organs or mouth. Blisters last up to three weeks and disappear. But you still have herpes and the blisters will come back.

Herpes cannot be cured. Herpes will not kill you, but you will not kill it either. A mother with herpes can give it to her baby during childbirth.

A 17-year-old girl contracted herpes on her first sexual encounter. In her case, the menstrual cycle triggers the outbreak of herpes. The blisters last about 16 days. She can look forward to having these painful, itching sores on her body for 16 out of every 30 days for the rest of her life. This is unbearable.

(b) Syphilis:

Syphilis is one of the older STDs, but it still does its deadly work. A painless, reddish-brown sore shows up on the mouth or sex organs within a few weeks after having sex. After 1-5 weeks, the sore goes away, but you still have syphilis. If untreated, syphilis can cause paralysis, blindness, heart damage, brain damage and death. A mother can give syphilis to her baby during childbirth. Syphilis can be cured, but you can catch it as many times as you have sex with someone who has it. Bitter fruit!

(c) Gonorrhea:

Gonorrhea has been around for a long time. Symptoms usually show up 2-21 days after having sex. Most women and many men have no symptoms, but they have the

disease and can spread it. When symptoms do appear, men usually have a burning sensation when urinating. Women may experience a slight burning and itching. In cases where there are symptoms, they frequently disappear for a time. That does not mean that the disease has disappeared too. It has merely gone underground where it continues to do its noxious work.

Chapter Twelve

Decision Determines Destiny

Destiny is not a matter of chance, it is a matter of choice; it is not a thing to be waited for, it is a thing to be achieved. It is all about not letting challenges stop you from living the life you want. Who you are now, or what you have demonstrated up until now, does not define who you will become. What you choose to do today, at this moment, will.

Past mistakes, failures, wasted time and opportunities mean nothing. They are merely lessons to be quickly acknowledged and learned, nothing more. What counts is what you will do right now to become the person you were meant to be. Change can take in just one decision; one moment in the day can determine your destiny! Make a decision to stop anything negative that happened in the past from entering your present life and your future.

Nothing in the past will enter your life without your permission. Yes, sometimes you relapse and you find yourself watching movie clips of negative past scenes stored on your mind. Yes, thoughts may come but you have to quickly dismiss them before they start replaying on your mind. You have enough problems for today and enough issues in the future to worry about what happened in the past.

The past is water under the bridge you can't change. Learn from it, avoid repeating it, and take what is good out of it, and move on. If it worked out, that is a testimony. If it didn't work out, that is experience. You can't reach your destiny with your back turned towards it. God says, "*Do not call to mind the former things, or ponder things of the past. For I am about to do something new. See, I have already begun! Do you not see it?" (**Isaiah 43:18-19**)* When the Devil flashes pictures and movie clips of the past on the screen of your mind, you have got to change the channel. The remote control is in your hand.

Sometimes when people tell us we can't, they honorably mean we can! Deep in their heart, they know you are more than proficient to do it. When you make up your mind to achieve something, you must tune out the negative conversations that have the potential to derail and wreck you from reaching your goal. Your dream is possible! Believe you can make it and work towards it. It's only part of our human nature to want to quit when

we are emotionally exhausted, tired, rejected, criticized, ridiculed or in pain. It's normal. But when your desire to succeed surpasses and outstrips your pain, then you will surely be unstoppable.

Don't let yourself be controlled by three things: People, money, or past experiences. Sorrow looks back, worry looks around, but faith looks up! When life hits hard, what would be your song? What would be the testimony of your lips? Despite it all, learn from yesterday, live for today, and hope for tomorrow. It might not appear so, but believe me a better life awaits you. Don't get so mad at the difficult people in your life. They are an opportunity to build your patience muscles!

Life is a challenge every day and not all will buy into our dreams and idea of life, but that should never stop us from moving ahead and living our lives. Don't let people that pull you down win.

When the ship is on the water - It will float and move forward no matter how much water pushes it left right and Centre. Even in the middle of a storm, a well-built ship will keep moving ahead but, will sink when water gets into it. Now-As long as it keeps the water out, it will move and get to its destination.

What am I saying? It does not matter how many people discourage you and try to bring you down. The truth is, you will only fail when you pay attention, accept and take

in what they say about you. In most cases; the people that talk ill have nothing happening in their lives. They are miserable and want to pull you into it. Don't let them win.

Wearing a mask to impress others.

If the face you always show the world is a mask, someday there will be nothing beneath it. Because when you spend too much time concentrating on everyone else's perception of you, or who everyone else wants you to be, you eventually forget who you really are. So don't fear the judgments of others; you know in your heart who you are and what is true to you. You don't have to be perfect to impress and inspire people. Let them be impressed and inspired by how you deal with your imperfections. Don't bother just to be better than your contemporaries or predecessors. Try to be better than yourself. When I discovered this, it changed my life forever. It saved me from competition. The only person I compete with is myself.

Letting someone else create your Dreams for you.

The greatest challenge in life is discovering who you are; the second greatest is being happy with what you find. A big part of this is your decision to stay true to your own goals and dreams. Do you have people who disagree with you? Good. It means you're standing your ground and walking your own path. Eagles always fly alone. Sometimes you'll do things considered crazy by others, but when

you catch yourself excitedly losing track of time, that's when you'll know you're doing the right thing. People are always blaming their circumstances for what they are. I don't believe in circumstances. The people who get on in this world are the people who get up and look for the circumstances they want, and if they can't find them, they create them.

Norman Vincent Peale, said, "People become really quite remarkable when they start thinking that they can do things. When they believe in themselves they have the first secret of success." The great pleasure in life is doing what people say you cannot do. Any time we base our self -image on how we feel, we will run into problems because our feelings change. As long as we feel good, our self-image is good. When we begin to feel bad, however, our self-image tumbles.

We need to anchor our self-image on something that does not change. Where do we find it? When we become believers, we become new creations in Christ, recreated in His image. The image of Christ in us will never change. Although our outward appearance will change over time, Christ's image in us will stay the same. Like His image, Christ's attitude toward us also will never change.

No matter how good or bad we may feel, no matter how up or down we may be, Christ loves us, accepts us, and thinks the world of us. His opinion of us is the only opinion that matters. We should base our self-image on

what He thinks about us, not on what others think, or even on what we think about ourselves. There is one quality that one must possess to win, and that is definiteness of purpose, the knowledge of what one wants, and a burning desire to possess it. No more and no less.

Keeping negative company.

Don't let someone who has a bad attitude give it to you. Don't let them get to you. They can't pull the trigger if you don't hand them the gun. When you remember that keeping the company of negative people is a choice, instead of an obligation, you free yourself to keep the company of compassion instead of anger, generosity instead of greed, and patience instead of anxiety. Keep away from small people who try to belittle your dreams. Small people always do that, but the really great people make you feel that you, too, can become great.

As a kid year back, my father used to do off-the-cuff work of loading the modicums sacks on trucks and so forth. My mother used to sell firewood while I used to hoard water to people's apartments. All these were to make the ends meet because of the poverty we were in. Thus, my school career was constantly interrupted.

One day at school, the teacher walked in class and asked us to write about what we wanted to be when we grew up. I did not hesitate a minute because I knew what I wanted to become and I wrote my vision down on paper about

my dream to be an author, to travel around the world, to own companies, to spear head inventions, to be someone's father and someone's husband, to possess apartments and condominiums, to be a pastor. And I wrote many other details and drew a location of buildings and apartments and even a detailed house plan. Few days later I received my results back with "*Fail*" on the front page. I held my peace. After class I went to the teacher and asked why I had received a "*Fail*".

The teacher told me: "This dream is so unrealistic for a poor water supplier boy like you, who has no money, no resources and who comes from peripatetic family. There is no possibility that you will reach your great goals one day." Then the teacher asked me to rewrite the vision with more realistic attitude. I went home and asked my mother, how I should act. This is what my mother told me: "My son, this decision is very important for you. So you have to make your own mind on this." After several days of contemplating with this, I brought the same paper to the teacher. No changes were made. And I told my teacher: "Keep the "*Fail*" and I will keep my dream."

Today, whatever I wrote on that paper, has come to reality one at a time. I am an author; four books are on market now, I have trekked to all parts of Uganda, and I have voyaged to different parts of the world. I discovered that the power to bring my dream to reality was not in my teacher but in me.

The only thing that stands between you and what you want from life is often merely the will to try it and the faith to believe that it is possible. Don't judge each day by the harvest you reap, but by the seeds you plant. Don't let your struggles become your identity. Don't measure yourself by what you have accomplished, but by what you should have accomplished with your ability. When you let go of what you are, you become what you might be.

Experience is not what happens to a man, it is what a man does with what happens to him. Just don't give up trying to do what you really want to do. Where there is love and inspiration, I don't think you can go wrong. If you have the courage to begin, you have the courage to succeed. Take the first step in faith. You don't have to see the whole staircase, just take the first step.

Being selfish and egotistical.

A life filled with loving deeds and good character is the best tombstone. Those who you inspired and shared your love with will remember how you made them feel long after your time has expired. So carve your name on hearts, not stone. What you have done for yourself alone dies with you; what you have done for others and the world remains and is immortal. If you are a leader, let me give you a hint here. Good leaders employ others but great leaders deploy other people. The most important part of the race is not running but passing over the button. No matter how fast you run, no matter how many people you exceed while

running, if you drop the button while passing, you are disqualified and everyone else on the team is disqualified.

The greatest obligation of true leadership is to transfer your deposit to the posterity. Leadership success is measured by the success of your successor. The ultimate goal of true leadership is not to maintain followers but to produce leaders. The ultimate measure of true leadership is the ability to leave. You are successful leaders when your followers can lead others. Please I cannot exhaust everything here but get my book on leadership. You will discover a great deal.

Avoiding change and growth.

If you want to know your past look into your present conditions. If you want to know your future, look into your present actions. You must let go of the old to make way for the new; the old way is gone, never to come back. If you acknowledge this right now and take steps to address it, you will position yourself for lasting success.

Giving up when the going gets tough.

There are no failures, just results. Even if things don't unfold the way you had expected, don't be disheartened or give up. Learn what you can and move on. The one who continues to advance one step at a time will win in the end, because the battle is always won far away and long before the final victory. It's a process that occurs with small steps, decisions, and actions that gradually

build upon each other and eventually lead to that glorious moment of triumph. Experience is not what happens to a man, it is what a man does with what happens to him. Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things that you didn't do than by the ones you did do. So throw off the bowlines. Sail away from the safe harbor. Catch the trade winds in your sails.

Explore, Dream, Discover! Success is not final; failure is not fatal. One of my mentors drew a distinction between achievement and success. He said that achievement is the knowledge that you have studied and worked hard and done the best that is within you. Success is being praised by others. That is nice but not as important or satisfying. Always aim for achievement and forget about success. It is the courage to continue that counts. There is only one thing that makes a dream impossible to achieve: the fear of failure.

Keep your face always toward the sunshine – and shadows will fall behind you. Our beliefs about what we are and what we can be precisely determine what we can be. Cultivate an optimistic mind, use your imagination, always consider alternatives, and dare to believe that you can make possible what others think is impossible. Most of the important things in the world have been accomplished by people who have kept on trying when there seemed to be no hope at all. "Whatever the mind can conceive and believe, the mind can achieve."

Trying to micromanage every little thing.

Life should be touched, not strangled. Sometimes you've got to relax and let life happen without relentless worry and micromanagement. Learn to let go a little before you squeeze too tight. Take a deep breath. When the dust settles and you can once again see the forest for the trees, take the next step forward. You don't have to know exactly where you're going to be headed somewhere great. Faith is not knowing where you are going but going anyway. Everything in life is in perfect order whether you understand it yet or not. It just takes some time to connect all the dots. Positive thoughts generate positive feelings and attract positive life experiences. Optimism is a happiness magnet. If you stay positive, good things and good people will be drawn to you.

Settling for less than you deserve.

Be strong enough to let go and wise enough to wait for what you deserve. Sometimes you have to get knocked down lower than you have ever been to stand up taller than you ever were before. Sometimes your eyes need to be washed by your tears so you can see the possibilities in front of you with a clearer vision again. Don't settle. The enemy of progress is your last success. As earlier said, my mentor drew a distinction between achievement and success. He said that achievement is the knowledge that you have studied and worked hard and done the best that is within you. Success is being praised by others. That is

nice but not as important or satisfying. Always aim for achievement and forget about success. Don't be satisfied with your last success. You are not finished until you are finished. You are not done until you are done.

Endlessly waiting until tomorrow.

The trouble is, you always think you have more time than you do. But one day you will wake up and there won't be any more time to work on the things you've always wanted to do. And at that point you either will have achieved the goals you set for yourself or you will have a list of excuses for why you haven't. Start by doing what's necessary; then do what's possible; and suddenly you are doing the impossible. Begin doing what you want to do now. We are not living in eternity. We have only this moment, sparkling like a star in our hand-and melting like a snowflake.

Being lazy and wishy-washy.

The world doesn't owe you anything, you owe the world something. So stop daydreaming and start doing. Develop a backbone, not a wishbone. Take full responsibility for your life – take control. You are important and you are needed. It is too late to sit around and wait for somebody to do something someday. Someday is now; the somebody the world needs is you.

Remember you come into the marriage relationship not with an empty heart to receive love from your spouse. You come with a heart full and overflowing of love eager and

ready to unreservedly give it to your spouse for as long as you shall live. True love is selfless and others-focused. It is the commitment to make the happiness and wellbeing of your spouse your primary concern. In marriage the question is not, "What am I getting out of this marriage?" It should rather be, "What am I giving into this marriage?"

Behind Impossible Situations, are immeasurable opportunities: Impossible situations inspire ingenious solutions. When it becomes absolutely necessary to find a solution, a solution will always be found. Every overwhelming obstacle, every chilling challenge, every impossible impediment, every daunting difficulty, and every testing trial we can overcome through Christ who strengthens us. (Philippians 4:13) Life demands boldness, great determination, stubborn faith and risky undertakings.

There is no sweet without sweat, there is no gain without pain, and there is no testimony without a test. Every sweet victory is preceded by a fierce battle. Out of the turmoil of life often come tremendous blessings. Those that seek to break us often end up blessings us. Those that leave often create room for those that cleave. I concur with Charles Swindle who said, "We are all faced with a series of great opportunities brilliantly disguised as impossible situations." Great disappointments often usher us into new appointments. Closed doors often signal the opening of floodgates of heaven over our lives. Our losses often

end up becoming our largest gains. Yes, you may never understand why certain things happen in life, but we must trust God and believe that, "....*all things* (***difficult things, impossible things, heartbreaking things, things we don't understand, evil things, painful things, etc.***) *work together for the good of those who are called according to His purpose." (**Romans 8:28**)* Only Believe!

God is Faithful: God does not only keep His promises, He delivers them not too early and not too late, but right on time. Therefore, stand on God's promises and trust God's perfect timing. You may be facing tough trials and complicated problems right now. You may be experiencing denials or delays. You may be praying for a breakthrough and wondering when God is going to come through for you.

Don't be tired of waiting for God. Waiting on God is not wasting time. From the ashes of your zero ground, God will raise up a giant hero of faith. God will turn your sorrow into joy and give you beauty for your ashes. Whatever you've been praying for and whatever you've been dreaming about; before you even asked Him, God already knew what you needed.

Don't mistake God's silence for inaction. He may be silent but busy working things, orchestrating events and lining up circumstances to ensure a best possible outcome for your good and His glory. At the perfect time the best will show up and come through for you. God has never failed

anyone. He is precise. He is meticulous. He will be just on time! Whatever God has promised He will bring it to pass. Are you willing to wait for God's perfect timing?

Things that cause regret at old age

When younger we make various choices without the future in mind. Sometimes those choices nibble us in our mid-life. These are some of the things one might regret when they are older.

1. Marrying the wrong person

When you're young, check your motives for marrying. Don't marry to copy your peers, or for social standing or out of pressure. Marry for love and companionship, marry the right person, marry your best friend. For if you marry the wrong person or for the wrong reasons, you will have to put up with that person the rest of your life. Things might get worse between you two; then depression, physical abuse, affairs, pain, shame, court cases, bitterness will define your mid-life years all because you chose the wrong one. Things will get worse when children are involved. Make the right choice of a spouse when you are young.

2. The opportunities you did not seize.

When you are younger many doors will open, you will get many chances. Many young people let these opportunities go because of fear, laziness, or pride; yet well younger and

with more energy is the best time to start a venture and a name for yourself. Some think the opportunities are too big for them. Take advantage of them or one day when you're older you will want to go back and grab those missed chances.

3. The bridges you burned.

When we are younger, we care little for relationships, what most think about is getting money and moving up the ladder of success at all cost. Many use and trample on people to progress, they take relationships for granted, messing up bonds, sleeping with people for personal gain. But these bad actions will catch up with you ahead. When you will realize how empty life is without love and friends. When you will have success but no one around you or no one to trust you.

4. The child you aborted.

You are a young lady, you get pregnant and you are scared. You take the aborting option quickly thinking of that moment then. But when you are much older, you will look back and wish you kept that baby. When you will be rich and successful you will wish that child you gave up on would be around to enjoy the fruits of your hard work. Being a single mother doesn't mean you can't make it in life or you can't find a man in future.

5. The child you rejected.

Young man, you impregnated a woman, she told you she is pregnant with your child. You rejected her and the baby and ran. But years later when you're 50 something, you will wish you were responsible, you will wish you manned up and became a father to that child. You will see that child excel and become an adult but will have no claim to that grown child who you rejected from the beginning. You will regret being a Dead Beat Dad by choice

6. The marriage you destroyed.

So you get married to your good fiancé; the first months in marriage were good but shortly after, with your money and charm, you started having affairs. You became unfaithful. Your spouse begged you to stop, your children started hurting, your marriage was collapsing. One day when you are older, it will hit you how foolish you were to destroy the good marriage you had begun to build for mere temporary thrills in affairs that did you no good. You will realize the damage you caused to your children and spouse.

7. The God you disowned.

When you are much older you become wiser, God becomes more real as you see life in a more meaningful way. But don't wait to get older to start enjoying a relationship with God. Know God when you are young, build your future with God. Don't be a young rebel who runs back to God when age catches up.

8. The body you messed up.

You have only one body to live with all your life. The cigarettes, the alcohol you are abusing, the drugs you are taking, the unhealthy food you're consuming; all that will destroy you slowly. When you are 50 and lifestyle diseases catch up with you, you will wish you took care of your body when younger, that you exercised more; but now the damage is done.

9. The time you wasted.

The time you are wasting when younger in worry, wrong relationships, laziness, being a couch potato, giving excuses and pursuing meaningless things; you will never get it back. Time has wings. It can fly far away. Time waits for no one. Treasure every moment you have. You will treasure it even more when you can share it with someone special.

10. The dreams and talents you shelved.

Are you talented when young; are there things you love to do and you are good at them? Nurture those talents, exploit them, don't give up even if you encounter setbacks, don't give up on your dreams. If you give up, when you're older you will look at your peers who stuck to what they love and made it and think to self, "That could have been me". Pursue a career, study a course you love. Don't waste years of your life in a field that doesn't fulfill you.

11. The name you defamed.

When you are older, a legacy is very important, the value of your name is crucial. You will ask yourself what is your reputation, what are you leaving behind? Your legacy is a sum total of your actions since youthful days. We write our biography by how we live life every day. When you look back your path and you see the mud you threw at your own name, the shame you attracted and the little value you have added to the world; you will regret.

12. The wealth you threw away.

Are you riding on good money during your productive years? Earning good money? Don't throw away that money in clubs, reckless living and wasteful shopping. Invest with that money, widen your revenue stream, make that money work for you and keep it safe to take care of you in your older years. Leave an inheritance for your loved ones so that you will never say "I wish I knew better"

13. The good love that got away.

Is there that great person in your life loving you good? Don't push that person away, or else that person will walk out your life and you will never ever find someone that incredible and who connects with you all your life. It will torment you to grow older with thoughts of "What if I was still with that person?"

14. The parents you despised.

When younger, it is easy to show contempt to your parents; what do your parent's know? They are old-fashioned, shady and small -minded. But your parents are still your parents whether you agree with them or not, whatever their style. Don't let your parent die or age separate them from you, reconcile and make up. When you get older, you will realize why your parents wanted to be close to you. The older you get, the more you see the value.

Receiving The New Birth

If you have not been born again, that is the step you must take before you can become a Kingdom citizen and receive eternal life. This is why Jesus came. He came not only as the one who announced and broadcasted the coming of the Kingdom, but also as the one through whom we gain entrance to the Kingdom: "*For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life*" ***(John 3:16)***.

Receiving the new birth is not a difficult process.

1. Acknowledge that you are a sinner in rebellion against God: "*For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God*" ***(Rom. 3:23)***.

2. Understand that the penalty for sin is eternal death:

"For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord" ***(Rom. 6:23).***

3. Believe that Jesus Christ died for your sins so that you might be forgiven*: "But God demonstrates His own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us"* ***(Rom. 5:8).***

4. Confess your sins to God: *"If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness"* ***(1 John 1:9).*** To confess your sins means to agree with God regarding your sins.

5. Repent of your sins: *"Unless you repent, you too will all perish"* ***(Luke 13:3).*** To repent means to make a clean discontinuity with sin, a 180-degree reversal of direction.

6. Confess Christ as your Savior and Lord and give Him control of your life*: "If you confess with your mouth, 'Jesus is Lord,' and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved"* ***(Rom. 10:9-10).***

The secret of conception

Conception is a clandestine process invisible to the naked eye. When you and I were conceived, nobody was watching, probably, except God. In other words, when the process of birth began, it was secret. Jesus said that the

new birth is like the wind; no one can see it. Likewise, citizenship is not a visual reality but a disposition.

In ***John 3:8*** Jesus says, "*The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit.*"

When you give your life or surrender your life to the King and He gives you a new birth, no one sees that. It may happen at an altar, on the flight, at home, at school; wherever you receive Christ, the process is invisible. The new birth involves believing, and no one can see you believing. Belief, like conception, is invisible.

Sometimes the new birth is accompanied by a feeling and sometimes it isn't. Everybody is different, so everybody's response to the new birth will be different. Feeling something is not the point. The point is that spiritual conception took place and internal change is in progress and underway. When a woman conceives, her clothes don't change. She doesn't even realize until sometime later, she begins to realize that something is going on.

The same thing happens spiritually. When you are born again, you surrender to Christ. Some weeks later it suddenly dawns on you that you don't enjoy sin anymore. That's change. That is a sign of the new birth. You have been born again. That is why it's impossible now for you to sin and feel the same way about it as you once did. In fact, sin eventually becomes a trepidation and terror to you.

Why? Because that is not your nature anymore. You've been born from above. And your Kingdom citizenship began the moment you were born again.

As I bring this book to an end, I would like to open an altar call for you to re-establish your connection with Jesus Christ. I would like you to understand this truth: Jesus Christ cleanses us, the Father forgives us, and the Spirit renews us. The writer of the book of Hebrews wrote, quoting Psalm 95, "As the Holy Spirit says: '*Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts as you did in the rebellion.*'" In other words, if you hear his voice, if you feel his conviction, if you hear him saying, "It's time," then do not harden your heart because there is going to come a day when he will stop calling you. The Scriptures speak about God as longsuffering or patient; it doesn't say that he is forever-suffering. He will allow foolishness for a long time, but only for so long.

The term apostate refers to someone who has entered a state where he can't hear the Spirit of God anymore. You don't want the Holy Spirit to stop convicting you. If the Holy Spirit convicts you about your need to repent, receive forgiveness, and enter the kingdom of God, you should run to him! Why? Because that means you are still in good relationship with him, and he is able to talk to you. Don't let your pride prevent you from responding because you wonder what people will say. You should rather worry that the Spirit will stop talking!

The Holy Spirit convicts people and enables them to be spiritually reborn.

I hope that you will listen to the most important person from heaven, who is the most important person on earth! He is vastly more important than angels, which many people hope to see. Angels, however, work for the government, but he is the government.

If you can hear him now say; "Its time", go ahead and whisper these words to your Dad:

Dear everlasting Father, I acknowledge that I am a sinner; I believe that you willingly sent Jesus to take the punishment for my sins on the cross and I call Him (Jesus Christ) to come and be the savior of my life today. Remove my name from the book of death and write my name in the book of life. From today, I promise to walk with you, all the days of my life, until I see your face in paradise. Thank you, Jesus Christ, for the gift of salvation. In Jesus' name! Amen.

If you confessed these words for the very first time, you have now started a journey of Christianity. I confessed those words years ago at age twelve and that became a crucial turning point in my life. You can write to us using the address at the back page of this book and let us know about that awesome decision you have made. God bless you! Shalom.