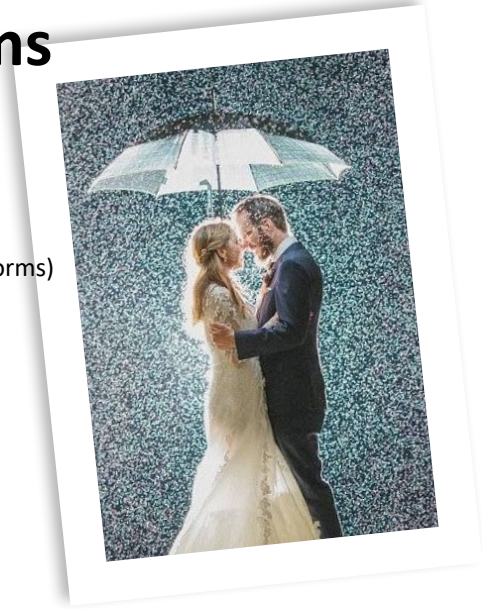
Weathering the Storms of Life & Marriage



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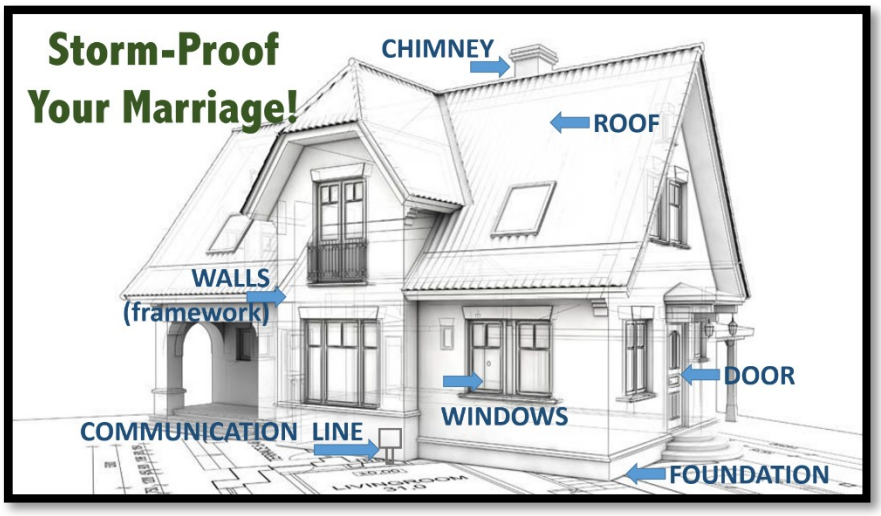

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Commitment to Christ and to Your Promises

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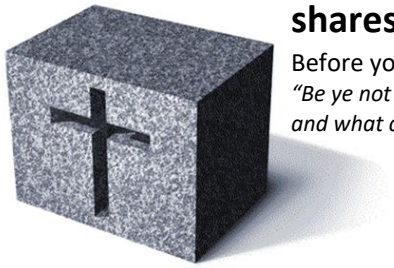

Before yoking up, ask, "Are we both committed believers in Christ?"
"Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness?" (2 Cor. 6:14)

B. *A marriage lasts when the couple …*

shares a common commitment to the permanence of their wedlock

Once married, realize that divorce is no option since God will hold you to your wedding vows (keep your covenant promises) *"…yet is she thy companion, and the wife of thy covenant. And did not he make one? Yet had he the residue of the spirit. And wherefore one? That he might seek a godly seed. Therefore take heed to your spirit, and let none deal treacherously against the wife of his youth. For the LORD, the God of Israel, saith that he hateth putting away (divorce):" (Malachi 2:14-16)*

In God's Word, the Bible, - The permanence of marriage is evidenced by the fact that:

1. **Marriage is a "COVENANT" (Malachi 2:14)**
2. **Marriage is an INSEPARABLE UNION (Gen. 2:24)**
3. **Jesus will NEVER FORSAKE His wife, the Church (Eph. 5:22-32; Heb.13:5; Matt.28:20)**
4. **God hates DIVORCE (Malachi 2:16)**

Is Christ the Foundation of your life and marriage?

II. The proper FRAMEWORK

Let the Designer Himself show you His plan for Marital Roles & Responsibilities

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These institutions involve submission and authority.
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Submission does NOT refer to the wife as being inferior in essence, but simply as having a different role or function.

Submission is misunderstood today.
God ordained that Husbands lovingly serve their wives (by providing for them, protecting them, directing them). And wives are to let them. This is the essence of submission.

A Biblical Definition of a wife's "Submission"
"Allow your husband to serve you
with the role & responsibilities God gave him"

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The word "love" is the Koine Greek word "agapao." This is a special love.

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7. A Sanctifying love (God's Love is pure)

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Learning how to TALK with your spouse



Practical Ways to Communicate Love To Your Wife

1. Say "I love you" often.
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  - 1) We must always build up (with our tongue) (Eph. 4:29; Col. 4:6)
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What is the source of our problems in Communication?

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A "DOOR" is primarily for entry protection;
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(God's Plea for You to Stay Clean)
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2. Sanctification is:
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(Look up at who you are rejecting!)

V. A solid <u>ROOF</u>

The ROOF provides
shelter and protection

Being sheltered with love/respect & grace/mercy



1 Peter 4:8 - And above all things have
fervent charity among yourselves:
for **<u>charity shall cover</u>** the multitude of sins.

- Love <u>gives</u> unselfishly (1 Cor. 13:4; Eph 5:33)
- Love <u>forgives</u> humbly & graciously (1 Cor. 13:5b; 1 Pet. 4:8)
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VI. An unblocked <u>CHIMNEY</u>

The chimney removes harmful smoke

Dealing Biblically with Anger & Practicing Biblical Forgiveness



A marriage that weathers the storm does not allow conflicts to go unresolved.
Ephesians 4:26-27 - Be ye angry, and sin not: let not the sun go down upon your wrath: Neither give place to the devil.

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Release anger and bitterness to God in prayer; Ask Him to expel it from your heart!

Be willing to forgive as God has forgiven you! *Matthew 6:14 - For if ye forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you:*

Eph. 4:32 - *"And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving (charizomai) one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you."*
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How did Jesus forgive?
Jesus forgave...

1. By <u>suffering</u> for the sins of others (Colossians 2:13-14)
   (In order for forgiveness to be real, someone has to pay the debt)

2. By <u>releasing</u> the sin from the sinner and <u>removing</u> both the sin and its consequences forever away from the sinner. The sin is no longer standing in between the forgiver and the one forgiven.
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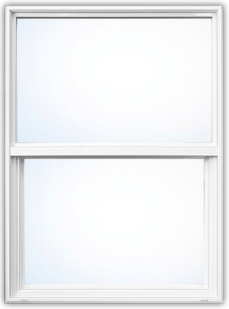
   (When Jesus forgives us, He releases the sin from us, sends it far away, and then showers us with His grace; Our forgiveness should be the same)

3. By <u>envisioning</u> God's <u>Higher Purpose</u>
   (Heb. 12:2 - "*[Jesus envisioning] the joy that was set before him endured the cross...")*
   You can see that God can even work through the evil sins of others for a good purpose (Gen.50:20)

VII. Clear <u>WINDOWS</u>

Letting God's Word shine in your heart and through your life

Windows let the light and beauty in!



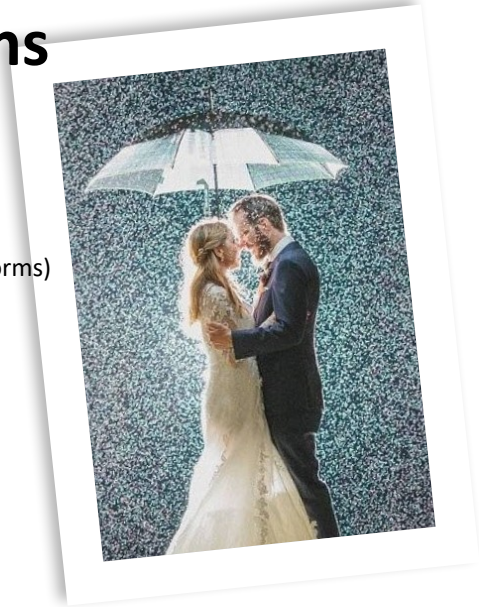
Let God's Word permeate your life and marriage.
Cultivate a close walk with Christ by hearing & obeying His Word.

Psalm 119:130 - The **entrance of thy** words giveth **<u>light</u>**; it giveth understanding unto the simple. See 2 Corinthians 4:6

Be a Doer of the Word and not a hearer only (James 1:22); Matthew 7:24-25 - Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock: And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock.

We can withstand any storm in life & marriage, when we are walking in obedience to God and His will.

Weathering the Storms of Life & Marriage



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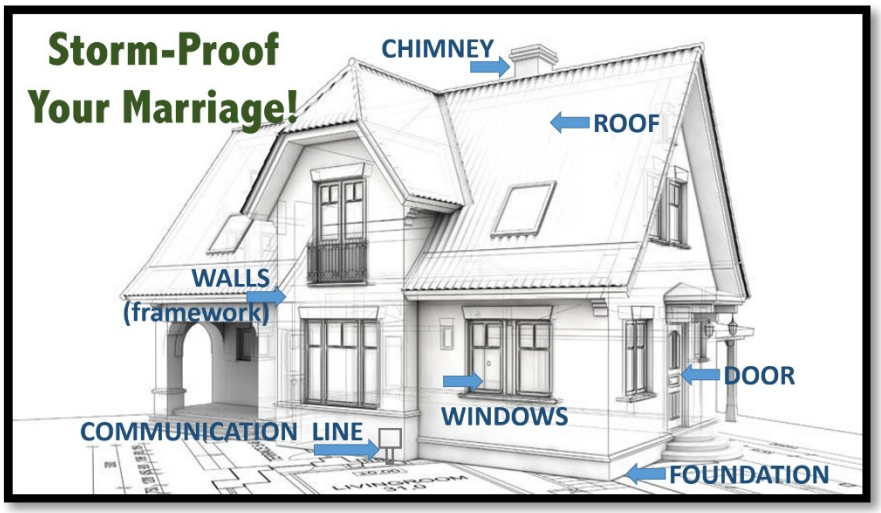

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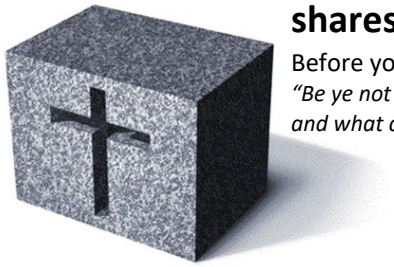

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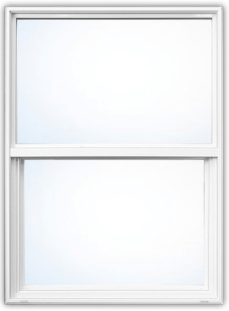
VII. Clear WINDOWS

Letting God's Word shine in your heart and through your life

Windows let the light and beauty in!



Let God's Word permeate your life and marriage.
Cultivate a close walk with Christ by hearing & obeying His Word.

Psalm 119:130 - The **entrance of thy** words giveth **light**; it giveth understanding unto the simple. See 2 Corinthians 4:6

Be a Doer of the Word and not a hearer only (James 1:22); Matthew 7:24-25 - Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise

man, which built his house upon a rock: And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock.

We can withstand any storm in life & marriage, when we are walking in obedience to God and His will.