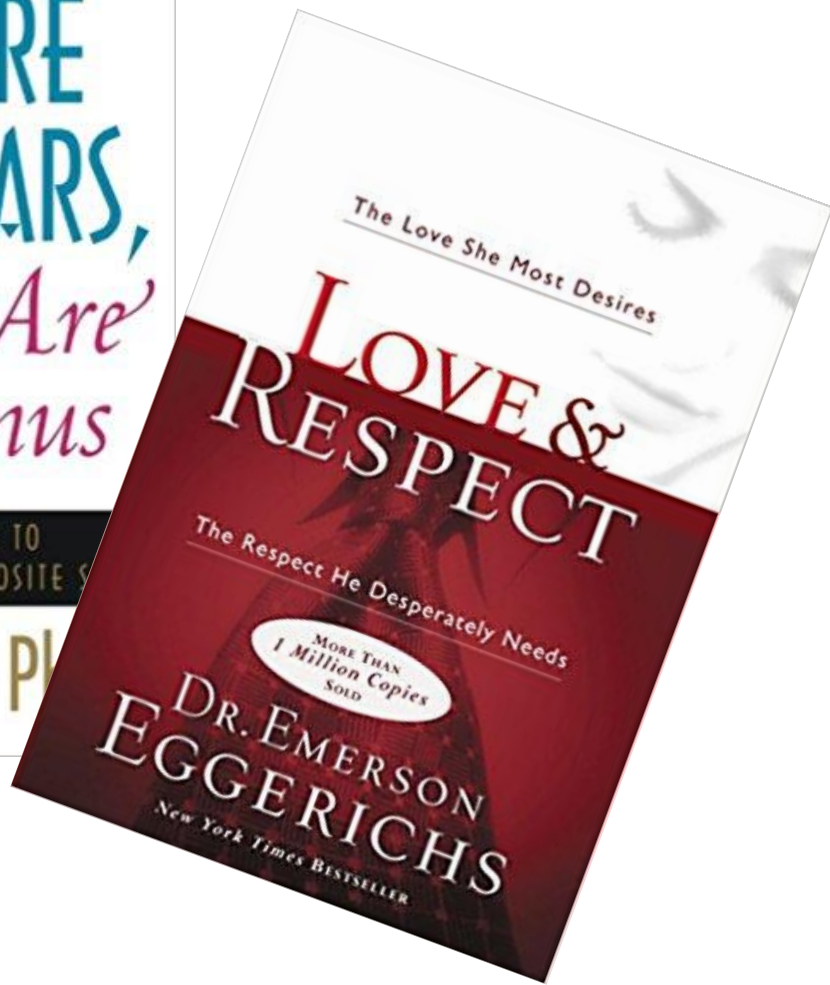
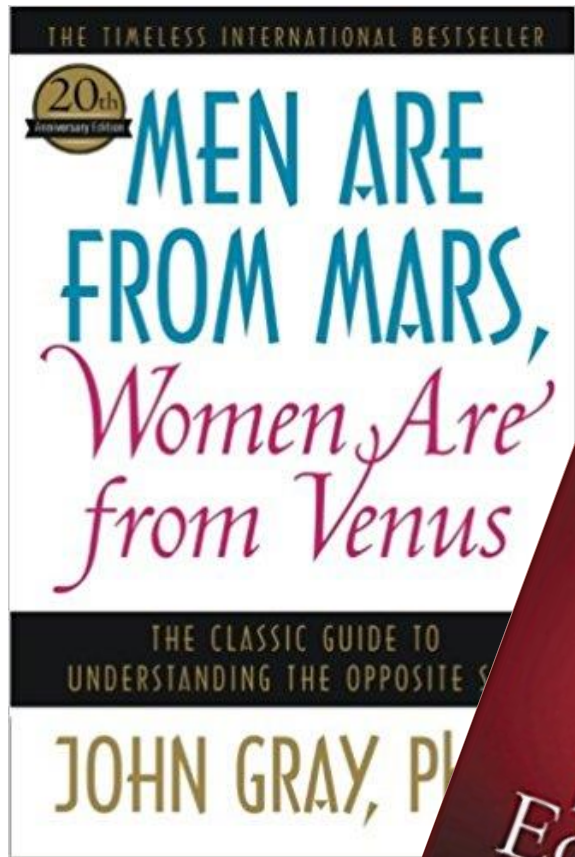
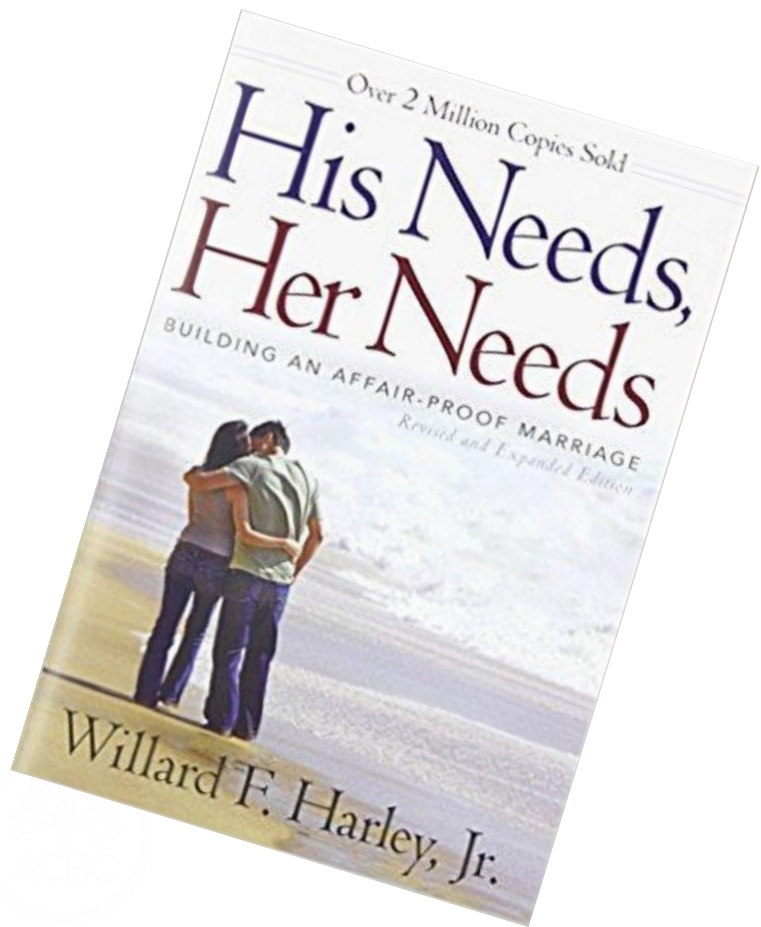


Key to Reviving a Broken or Stagnant Marriage

Brad Bigney





Marriage was Designed to Be
a Picture of the Relationship
Between Christ and His Bride –
the Church



Ephesians 5:22-33



v. 22 - "as to the Lord"

v. 23 - "as also Christ" is head of the church

v. 24 - Therefore "just as" the church is subject to Christ

v. 25 - "just as Christ" also loved the church and gave Himself

v. 29 - "just as Christ" does the church



5:18 – Be filled with the Spirit ‘... be filled with the Spirit’

5:20 – Be thankful ‘... giving thanks’

5:21 – Be ready to lay down your ‘rights’
‘... submitting to one another’

6:12 – Be alert to who the real enemy is that wants to destroy your marriage – Satan

‘For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood but against principalities...’



6:13 – Be armed for spiritual battle ‘Therefore take up the whole armor of God...’

6:16 – Be full of faith ‘Above all, taking the shield of faith’

6:18 – Be praying constantly ‘Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit’



Marriage was Ultimately
Designed For God's
Glory



“Forget your sense of awe...and the universe becomes a marketplace for you. The loss of awe is the great block to insight.”

God in Search of Man: A Philosophy of Judaism,
Abraham Joshua Heschel, p 78



Ephesians 5:32

“This is a great mystery, but I speak concerning Christ and the church.”



Titus 2:10

“...that they may adorn the doctrine of God our Savior in all things.”



Marriage was Designed to
Expose Us and Help Us Grow
Spiritually to Become More Like
Christ



Marriage is designed to
help each person grow in
holiness



“What if God had an end in mind that went beyond our happiness, our comfort... What if God designed marriage to make us holy more than to make us happy?”

Sacred Marriage: What If God Designed Marriage to Make Us Holy More than to Make Us Happy? Gary Thomas, p. 13



Although marriage is designed to be the norm for life on earth, it is not required to glorify God, grow spiritually, or impact others.



1 Corinthians 7:32

“The unmarried man is anxious about the things of the Lord, how to please the Lord. But the married man is anxious about worldly things, how to please his wife.”



2 Corinthians 11:2-3

“...I betrothed you to one husband, to present you as a pure virgin to Christ. But I am afraid that...your thoughts will be led astray from a sincere and pure devotion to Christ.”



God Never Designed Marriage
to Fully Satisfy Us or to Replace
Him



Help them to see how they
might be taking a good thing
and making it a 'god' thing or an
ultimate thing



Romans 1

The Great Exchange



Help them to accept that
there's a measure of futility
still present in the best
Christian marriage



Encourage them to groan and
long for something better that
will fully satisfy



“If I find in myself a desire which no experience in this world can satisfy, the most probable explanation is that I was made for another world.”

C.S. Lewis, *Mere Christianity*

