

Sacred Marriage (Part 3):

Lies that Will Destroy Your Marriage (5:21-33)

²¹ And further, submit to one another out of reverence for Christ. ²² For wives, this means submit to your husbands as to the Lord. ²³ For a husband is the head of his wife as Christ is the head of the church. He is the Savior of his body, the church. ²⁴ As the church submits to Christ, so you wives should submit to your husbands in everything. ²⁵ For husbands, this means love your wives, just as Christ loved the church. He gave up his life for her ²⁶ to make her holy and clean, washed by the cleansing of God's word. ²⁷ He did this to present her to himself as a glorious church without a spot or wrinkle or any other blemish. Instead, she will be holy and without fault. ²⁸ In the same way, husbands ought to love their wives as they love their own bodies. For a man who loves his wife actually shows love for himself. ²⁹ No one hates his own body but feeds and cares for it, just as Christ cares for the church. ³⁰ And we are members of his body. ³¹ As the Scriptures say, "A man leaves his father and mother and is joined to his wife, and the two are united into one." ³² This is a great mystery, but it is an illustration of the way Christ and the church are one. ³³ So again I say, each man must love his wife as he loves himself, and the wife must respect her husband.

Summary

- The Purpose of Marriage is to Make You **Holy** More than Happy.
- Marriage **Exposes** and **Reveals** the Inner You.
- Marriage is a Life of Practicing **Repentance**.
- **Control** is the Core Issue With Which We Wrestle.
- **Mutual Submission** to Each Other in Marriage is an **Internship** and a Place of **Practice** for Both Husband and Wife to Learn How to Give Up Control of One's Life to Jesus.

Lie #1: Your Spouse Is Responsible to Meet Your Needs

Married at 19 (Bible College)
Previous Abuse and Confusion
Broken Expectations and Betrayal
Deep and Unhealed Wounds
Rejection and Blanket Insecurity
Hiding and Cleaning Up Messes – Isolation
Utter Devastation of Divorce



The "Answer"
(Sarah Mclachlan)

- What an incredible burden to put on another human being
- Impossible and Unfair
- Unmet Expectations Lead to Untrue Conclusions About Yourself, Your Spouse, the World, and God
- A Utterly Distorted and Corrupted Worldview

Col. 2:8-10

See to it that no one takes you captive through hollow and deceptive philosophy, which depends on human tradition and the elemental spiritual forces of this world rather than on Christ. For in Christ all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form, and in Christ you have been brought to fullness.

Only God Can Meet Your Needs

John 10:10

The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; **I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.**

Philippians 4:19 **God will supply all your needs** according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

- “A good husband but a terrible God”
- A Healthy Marriage Brings You Closer to Jesus and More Dependent on Him
 - “The Second Love of My Life”

Lie #2: You Can Change Your Spouse

- **We mistakenly believe that we are helping our marriage when we try to control our spouse’s undesired behavior or lack of desired behavior.**

James 4:1-3

What is causing the quarrels and fights among you? Don’t they come from the evil desires at war within you... you don’t have what you want because you don’t ask God for it. And even when you ask, you don’t get it because your motives are all wrong—you want only what will give you pleasure.

- **The truth is we may often be desperately and manipulatively trying to shape our spouse into a source of getting our needs met.**
- **The irony is that God’s gift of marriage can easily be distorted into an incredibly subtle form of idolatry.**

James 4:11-12

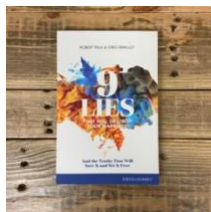
If you criticize and judge each other, then you are criticizing and judging God’s law. But your job is to obey the law, not to judge whether it applies to you. God alone, who gave the law, is the Judge. He alone has the power to save or to destroy. So what right do you have to judge your neighbor?

Romans 14:4

Who are you to judge the servant of another? To his own master he stands or falls; and he will stand, for the Lord is able to make him stand.

Only God Makes You Holy

- And, He often uses marriage as the setting to do so.
- Although in marriage, we often talk about oneness – each person still maintains their individual and primary relationship with God.



**9 Lies That Will Destroy Your Marriage:
& the Truths that Will Save it and Set it Free**
by Robert Paul and Greg Smalley

Answer

Sarah McLachlan

I will be the answer at the end of the line
I will be there for you while you take the time
In the burning of uncertainty, I will be your solid ground
I will hold the balance if you can't look down

If it takes my whole life, I won't break, I won't bend
It'll all be worth it, worth it in the end
'Cause I can only tell you what I know
That I need you in my life
When the stars have all gone out
You'll still be burning so bright

Cast me gently into morning
For the night has been unkind
Take me to a place so holy
That I can wash this from my mind
The memory of choosing not to fight

If it takes my whole life, I won't break, I won't bend
It'll all be worth it, worth it in the end
'Cause I can only tell you what I know
That I need you in my life
And when the stars have all burned out
You'll still be burning so bright

Cast me gently into morning
For the night has been unkind