

Great Books on Building Strong Marriages

1. **The Five Love Languages: The Secret to Love That Lasts**

By Gary Chapman

In a new edition of this classic book, Dr. Chapman explains how people communicate love in different ways, and shares the great things that can happen when a man and woman learn to speak in each other's love language.

2. **Now You're Speaking My Language: Honest Communication and Deeper Intimacy for a Stronger Marriage**

By Gary Chapman

This book encourages husbands and wives to offer steadfast loyalty, forgiveness, empathy, and commitment to resolving conflict, thus encouraging each other in spiritual growth. Chapman shows how communication and intimacy are key points in developing a successful marriage and how they can be found through God and the pages of the Bible.

3. **Hope for The Separated: Wounded Marriages Can Be Healed**

By Gary Chapman

When marital conflict leads to separation, feelings of hopelessness invariably set in. Dr. Chapman has helped thousands take constructive action through developing their relationship with God and each other.

4. **The Power of Prayer to Change Your Marriage**

By Stormie Omartian

With her hopeful approach, Omartian tackles 14 serious threats to a lasting marriage, including communication breakdown, financial difficulties, infidelity, depression, and sexual problems. Through biblical insights and personal prayers, she shows you how to protect your marriage and experience God's healing and restoration.

5. **Preparing for Marriage**

By Dennis Rainey

This newly updated version that is a perfect engagement gift. In the crazy months leading up to a wedding, it's easy for couples to get distracted. This guide will help you focus on what's truly important: a thriving, Christ-centered relationship—and lay the foundation for a godly marriage.

6. **The FamilyLife Marriage Bible: Equipping Couples for Life (NKJV)**

With articles and insights by Dennis and Barbara Rainey of the FamilyLife Today radio program, this Bible covers many issues facing husbands and wives: resolving conflict,

communicating effectively, raising Godly children, rekindling romance, loving difficult family members well, and more.

7. FamilyLife Bible Study for Couples

By Dennis and Barbara Rainey

Create a blessed life together with this 7-week Bible study that addresses the big issues couples face in marriage. The authors offer reflections, discussion questions, and practical applications to help you grow together and closer to God.

8. A Marriage Without Regrets: No Matter Where Your Are or Where You've Been

By Kay Arthur

A book filled with practical teaching straight from God's Word, it will give you the tools to build a healthy marriage from the start, strengthen a good marriage, or save a marriage from spiraling toward disaster.

9. Sacred Marriage: What if God Designed Marriage to Make Us Holy More Than to Make Us Happy

By Gary Thomas

Is happiness the ultimate goal of marriage, or is there a greater purpose? Thomas helps you understand the Lord's intention for marriage, which is to reflect the characters of Christ—forgiveness, love, respect, perseverance—in both of you. See how God wants to use your marriage as a spiritual discipline to draw you closer to Him, who is happiness.

10. The Marriage You've Always Wanted

By Gary Chapman

This updated edition gives practical insights on communication, in-laws, finances, sex, and more to provide a solid foundation for a lifetime of happiness. A great resource for engaged couples, newlyweds, or long-time married couples.

11. From Anger to Intimacy: How Forgiveness Can Transform Your Marriage

By Dr. Gary Smalley and Ted Cunningham

Anger is a God-given emotion that can wreck havoc on a marriage. This book will help you discover how responding positively to provocation can transform your relationship and your lives. Learn about healthy conflict resolution; three essentials of forgiveness; crafting the perfect apology; healing after an affair; and more.

12. Every Man's Marriage: An Every Man's Guide to Winning the Heart of a Woman

By Stephen Arterburn, Fred Stoeker, and Mike Yorkey

A great book for men that will help you grasp and apply essential principles for marital leadership. The authors apply solid, time-tested biblical wisdom and down-to-earth

applications to dispel misconceptions that can lead to strife in relationships. (Includes workbook.)

13. Every Woman's Marriage: Igniting the Joy and Passion You Both Desire

By Shannon and Greg Ethridge

This book will show you how to reignite your relationship with spiritual, emotional, and physical passion. Learn what makes your husband's heart grow cold and how you can fan the embers into flame. (Includes a workbook.)

14. Night Light: A Devotional for Couples

By Dr. James Dobson, Shirley Dobson

The challenge of sustaining an intimate, faith-based marriage in today's fast-paced culture has never been greater. Focus on the Family founder and his wife bring spouses together each evening, helping them stay connected with each other and their Lord.

15. The Four Seasons of Marriage

By Gary Chapman

Marriages go through different stages over the years. Discover the current season of your marriage and then learn how to discuss it with your spouse in order to enhance and strengthen it. Dr. Chapman provides 7 practical strategies that are biblically based to help couples through every season of marriage.

16. Getting Marriage Right

By David Gushee

Driven by the pain of divorce he's seen in the lives of students, friends, and family members, Gushee looks closely at the causes of the collapse of modern marriage. Learn central skills and virtues of successful married life based on four foundational concepts: the creation purposes of marriage; the covenant structure of marriage; the kingdom possibilities of marriage; and the community context of marriage. A great resource for starting a marriage ministry in your church.

17. No Greater Love: A 90-Day Devotional to Strengthen Your Marriage

By Russ Rice, Brad Silverman

There is no greater love than one between two people centered in God and propelled by His love. This devotional book will help couples love each other unconditionally and keep God at the center of their marriage.

18. Hot Topics for Couples

By Steve and Annie Chapman

Make your marriage more exciting and fulfilling by learning what your spouse is really thinking. This book provides you with interactive questions that encourage

communication about everything from housework and parenting to your sex life. Using their 35-year marriage, discussions with couples, and biblical wisdom, the Chapman's help you resolve small issues before they become major ones.

19. Staying Close: Stopping the Natural Drift Toward Isolation in Marriage

By Dennis and Barbara Rainey

Countless married couples end up living alone—in the same house. Over 28 years of conducting “Weekend to Remember” conferences have convinced the Rainey's that isolation is the number-one problem in marriages today. Topics include: understanding the cultural and personal forces that lead to isolation; manage your schedules, workloads, and responsibilities without losing sight of each other; grow closer during hard times; and allow for individual differences while maintaining unity.

20. Love and War: Finding the Marriage You've Dreamed Of

By John and Stasi Elredge

This new book will do for couples what Captivating did for women and Wild at Heart did for men. Couples are encouraged to fight for one another and not with each other. As couples fight the forces at work against their marriage, they are reminded they are in this “battle” together.

21. 10 Lifesaving Principles for Women in Difficult Marriages

By Karla Downing

Based on her own personal struggles during her 23-year marriage, Downing gives ten principles she has learned to improve your marriage. With biblical examples, you can understand the scriptural truths, change yourself not him, and reach out to others who are going through similar situations.

22. Desperate Marriages: Moving Toward Hope and Healing in Your Relationship

By Gary Chapman

Chapman provides positive steps and principles that can move readers toward healing in their relationships. Even if it seems there is no chance for reconciliation, these tools can help restore trust and love and provide hope for couples on the brink of divorce.

23. The Complete Resource Kit for Marriage Mentoring: Everything You Need to Launch a Marriage Mentoring Program

By Drs. Les and Leslie Parrott

What can your church do to stem today's tide of divorce? The Parrott's effective hands-on program trains husband-and-wife teams to skillfully support couples who are at critical crossroads. Includes a 10-session DVD; training manuals; and hardcover book.

*Books available at www.christianbook.com