

## Covenant Marriage Building Communication And Intimacy Gary Chapman

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### GIOVANNA MOHAMMED

*Biblical Wisdom for Deepening Our Lives Together* WestBow Press

Claiming Our Deepest Desires integrates the spirituality of marriage with the practical experience of marriage. M. Bridget Brennan and Jerome L. Shen, a married couple, invite readers to reflect on God's call to marriage, the nature of the call, and the acceptance. Readers contemplate true love, intimacy, and how love is expressed and received in their marriage. The book addresses attitudes that are helpful for dealing with obstacles and fears that hinder intimacy. The rhythms, cycles, and stages in a marriage are discussed to provide awareness for a married couple. The wants, needs, and requirements for the relationship are acknowledged. The authors delve into some specific aspects of marriage by considering the process of making decisions as a couple, discussing making life choices, and different perspectives on the use of time and money. One chapter is devoted to love making. Communication and conflict resolution are brought up as well as the call to mission. The book ends by focusing on the hopes, dreams, and Vision that we have for marriage and how that motivates us to live better and more joy-filled lives today. Claiming Our Deepest Desires is for adults in healthy committed married relationships, who wish to grow in love and intimacy to realize the full promise of marriage. Ideally spouses will read, reflect on, and discuss the book together. It can be used by individuals, small groups, or as a supplemental text to university-level courses. Chapters are Call to Marriage, - \*What Is Love and Intimacy? - \*Growing in Love and Intimacy, - \*The Dynamics of Relationship, - \*Making Decisions on Life Choices, Time, and Money, - \*Making Love in a Sexually Charged World, - \*Conflict and Communication, - \*Mission: Fruit of a Vibrant Marriage, - and \*The Fruit of Love Is Joy. - Exercises and reflection questions are provided at the end of each chapter. M. Bridget Brennan is the director of marriage ministry at St. Francis Xavier Church on the campus of St. Louis University. She serves as a consultant with the St. Louis Archdiocesan Office of Laity and Family Life. She is founder and president of The Cana Institute. She also serves as an adjunct instructor at Aquinas Institute School of Theology and St. Louis Community College. Jerome L. Shen served as director of fundamental research for DuPont Protein Technology International for several years. Presently he serves as visiting professor of chemistry at Southern Illinois University, Edwardsville, Illinois. Bridget and Jerry travel throughout the United States presenting retreats and workshops for married couples. In addition, they direct marriage preparation seminars for first-time marriages, second-time marriages, and inter-faith marriages. "

**Covenant Marriage in a Contract Culture** Harmony

In this new book, the bestselling author of "The Five Love Languages" shows how communication and intimacy are two of the most important aspects in developing a successful Covenant Marriage. [Staying Together for Life](#) Zondervan

Does your marriage fulfill your dreams? Are you not yet married but eager to wed? Are you afraid to marry because you've seen so few happy marriages? R.C. Sproul offers this practical guide to help married couples -- or those seeking to get married -- develop the skills of marriage. Diligently scriptural, *The Intimate Marriage* shows how marriage can have an abundance of joy when grounded in the wisdom of God. Sproul walks through some of the toughest things couples struggle with today: communication, sex, roles, divorce, anger, and more. He shares what the Bible says about each, as well as lessons he has learned from his own marriage of forty years. "My hope is that your marriage will be an adventure, exciting and fulfilling," says Sproul. Questions at the end of each chapter will help couples apply these biblical principles to their marriages. Book jacket.

[Sacred Relationships](#) Zondervan

"Most people today view marriage as a means of looking for love, happiness, and fulfillment. Make

no mistake about it, those things are important. Those things are critical. They are just not the most critical." —Tony Evans *Marriage Matters* paints a picture of what it means to have a happy marriage—as God defines happiness. By examining the nature of the covenant and the purpose of marriage, Tony Evans gives steps to developing and maintaining a healthy relationship. In his approachable style, Dr. Evans explains the origins, order, and operation of marriage in its relation to Scripture. If the profound fruits of your marriage have turned into something mundane, or the validity of the covenant of marriage eludes you, then join Tony Evans in figuring out why *Marriage Matters*.

*The 4 Seasons of Marriage* Rutgers University Press

Katherine Willis Pershey has never slept with the mailman or kissed an ex-boyfriend. Good thing, since she's married. But simply not committing adultery does not give you the keys to "happily ever after," as Pershey has come to find out in her own marriage and in her work as a pastor. What is this sacred covenant that binds one person to another, and what elements of faith and fidelity sustain it? In *Very Married: Field Notes on Love and Fidelity*, Pershey opens the book on all things marital. With equal parts humor and intelligence, Pershey speaks frankly about the challenges and consolations of modern marriage. As she shares her own tales of bliss and blunder, temptation and deliverance, Pershey invites readers to commit once again to the joyful and difficult work of cherishing another person. For better or worse. For life. Free downloadable study guide available here.

**Honest Communication and Deeper Intimacy for a Stronger Marriage** Herald Press (VA)

In a culture that values convenience over commitment and views marriage as a contract rather than a covenant, marriages are in trouble. Even people who claim the Christian faith struggle with building healthy, happy, wholesome marriages that will endure for a lifetime. This deterioration of marriage tears at the fabric of the nuclear family, which also affects the health of the church family. In an attempt to curb the weakening marriages in my ministry setting, I proposed to lead a marriage retreat which focused on marriage as covenant, and which equipped couples with communication skills and conflict resolution techniques. My premise was that people can find hope for their marriages when they embrace God's ideal, which means living together in a covenantal relationship and equipping themselves with proper relational tools. We examined how covenant theology and the theology of communication can inform our marriages. In addition, couples learned how to reveal their thoughts and feelings to their spouse more effectively, and how destructive poor communication can be to any relationship. This project tracked seven couples who experienced the marriage retreat, and the effects the experience had on their marriage relationships.

**Becoming One** InterVarsity Press

*Covenant Marriage Building Communication & Intimacy* B&H Publishing Group

**A Practical Guide from the Country's Foremost Relationship Expert** Moody Publishers

Points out the common problems between husbands and wives and shows how to overcome them to build a successful relationship

[Love is a Verb](#) Lulu.com

*Honest Relationships, More Fulfilled Marriages* is a collection of thoughts and ideals relevant to building healthy relationships, that lead to successful marriages. It focuses on the relationship and marriage covenant between a man and a woman and is expressed in real and simple language, with the intent to inspire, uplift, and create resilient unions where genuine love and respect are displayed. Through the expression of committed love in healthy marriages, stronger families can be built that our children can celebrate and one day emulate. Its content is based on biblical principles, real-life experiences, shared views and thoughts. It is my hope that these real and simple thoughts will encourage open dialogues between couples and build more meaningful relationships. By sharing lessons learned from the demise of my own marriage, I was inspired to

use my experience to help others strengthen their own relationships and build marriages that work as God has purposed. This book encourages the exchange of dialogue on areas essential to build a more loving relationship that meets the need of each individual. As couples become more in tune with each other while developing honest open communication, their union can be strengthened. [Marriage That Works](#) Penguin

Whether you're in a relationship now or want to be in one, you have come to the right place. We can help. The average couple spends \$25,200 and over 250 hours on their wedding. That same couple spends less than \$100 and two hours on their marriage. Don't be guilty of having a BIG wedding and a BAD marriage. Don't spend more time focused on the ceremony than the matrimony. The wedding, while a tremendous celebration is designed to last less than a day in most cultures, while the marriage is designed to last a lifetime. Dating, engaged, married (happily or unhappily), or remarried, if you follow this resource, it is guaranteed to help you make the right decision about marriage, prepare you for marriage, or strengthen the marriage you are already in. Teresa and I have been working on this manual all our married lives - not because we are really slow writers, but because this manual is the compilation of everything we have learned in our personal lives as a married couple for 30 years with four children - boy do we have some stories to tell - as well as our professional training. This book is a compilation of what we have seen work and not work in more than 20 years of practical application working with dating, engaged, married, and remarried couples. We developed this system out of necessity. We used another manual for more than a decade until it was literally no longer available. We looked for other resources, but never found one that fit our style and that really resonated with the couples we were coaching and counseling. Finally we decided to develop our own. We completed the first draft of this manual in 2010 and started using it in our weekend intensive sessions where Teresa and I meet with a couple for approximately 10 to 12 hours from Friday afternoon through Saturday (all day). As we used this tool, we have been constantly writing, rewriting, and adding as questions and issues arose that we did not initially include in this resource. We would often leave the counseling room that Friday, come home, and add or modify a section based on a situation we saw or anticipated seeing the next day in the intensive. Though we have never made this tool available to anyone other than the couples we have personally worked with, our clients have urged us to share this resource, as they were genuinely moved and changed by the information contained herein. What you hold in your hands is the result of this process. This product was not developed in a classroom, using a lot of relationship theory, but rather forged in the crucible of real-life situations and circumstances. This resource is just the beginning of your journey through *Relationship Success University*. For more information, please visit: [RelationshipSuccessUniversity.com](http://RelationshipSuccessUniversity.com) Tags: relationships, marriage, relationships 101, marriage counseling, christian marriage, relationship rescue, love, healthy relationships

*Covenant Marriage* WestBow Press

Learn how to build and maintain an intimate, committed relationship that endures in the lashing seas of today's culture."

[Saving Your Marriage Before It Starts](#) Liturgical Press

Now You're Speaking My Language from multimillion selling author Gary Chapman (*The Five Love Languages*) encourages husbands and wives to offer steadfast loyalty, forgiveness, empathy, and commitment to resolving conflict, thus encouraging each other in spiritual growth. With great clarity, Dr. Chapman shows how communication and intimacy are key points in developing a successful marriage by focusing on these principles: Lasting answers to marital growth are found in the Bible, Your relationship with God enhances your marriage relationship, Communication is the main way two become one in a marriage, and Biblical oneness involves sex, but also intellectual, spiritual, emotional, and social oneness.

**Fierce Marriage** NavPress

Ryan and Selena Frederick were newlyweds when they landed in Switzerland to pursue Selena's dream of training horses. Neither of them knew at the time that Ryan was living out a death sentence brought on by a worsening genetic heart defect. Soon it became clear he needed major surgery that could either save his life—or result in his death on the operating table. The young couple prepared for the worst. When Ryan survived, they both realized that they still had a future together. But the near loss changed the way they saw all that would lie ahead. They would live and love fiercely, fighting for each other and for a Christ-centered marriage, every step of the way. *Fierce Marriage* is their story, but more than that, it is a call for married couples to put God first in their relationship, to measure everything they do and say to each other against what Christ did for them, and to see marriage not just as a relationship they should try to keep healthy but also as one worth fighting for in every situation. With the gospel as their foundation, Ryan and Selena offer hope and practical help for common struggles in marriage, including communication problems, sexual frustration, financial stress, family tension, screen-time disconnection, and unrealistic expectations.

[With These Words](#) B&H Publishing Group

“Incredibly rich with wisdom and insight that will leave the reader, whether single or married, feeling uplifted.” —The Washington Times Based on the acclaimed sermon series by New York Times bestselling author Timothy Keller, this book shows everyone—Christians, skeptics, singles, longtime married couples, and those about to be engaged—the vision of what marriage should be according to the Bible. Modern culture would have you believe that everyone has a soul mate; that romance is the most important part of a successful marriage; that your spouse is there to help you realize your potential; that marriage does not mean forever, but merely for now; and that starting over after a divorce is the best solution to seemingly intractable marriage issues. But these modern-day assumptions are wrong. Timothy Keller, with insights from Kathy, his wife of thirty-seven years, shows marriage to be a glorious relationship that is also misunderstood and mysterious. *The Meaning of Marriage* offers instruction on how to have a successful marriage, and is essential reading for anyone who wants to know God and love more deeply in this life.

[Field Notes on Love & Fidelity](#) David C Cook

'You must be willing to be a healed single person rather than an ever-grieving divorcee,' says the author. This book answers the questions for those who 'didn't want a divorce,' but now have to face the reality of it.

[Building Communication & Intimacy Crossway](#)

The New Covenant as a Paradigm for Optimal Relations regards the New Covenant primarily as a gracious and merciful redemptive deal, springing from God's unilateral, unconditional, and proactive initiative. The New Covenant is adopted as representing both a salvific and an exemplary paradigm that displays God's gracious and merciful ways toward his children. Ten discrete, yet interwoven principles are extracted from, interpreted, and abstracted from Scriptures pertaining to the promised New Covenant. These principles apply to those who, as dearly beloved children, are invited to imitate God's loving ways. God's manner of love defines the foundational basis from which the author derives and elaborates the propositions that guide the considerations pertaining to thoughts, feelings, motivations, and behaviors that enter into play in relational transactions. In terms of style, an architectural design permeates the content of this book, offering and encompassing a metacognitive view of God's covenantal ways: a top-down perspective that applies to bottom-up endeavors of relational nature. The challenges posed by our cultural, postmodern trends--devoid of absolute principles and lacking a moral compass--are countered and addressed by the author in insightful fashion, offering theologically-based guidelines integrated to sound psychological principles, applicable to psychotherapeutic and counseling endeavors as well as to pastoral care.

[Marriage](#) Zondervan

Every couple knows they need to talk with each other. Every couple knows they need to pay attention to how they can communicate better. This practical marriage resource by pastor and author Rob Flood not only explores why couples should grow in communication, but it addresses the “how” of communication. *With These Words* offers in-depth, theologically rich tools that will also help flourish relationships outside of your marriage—your relationship with your kids, your friendships, and your coworkers. In this Scripture-based marriage book, you will learn that God is for you and on your side as you press toward helpful, biblical communication. In the face of many emotions and obstacles, there is a clear purpose and a clear method for words. But in the midst of this shift toward communication and biblical change, Flood shares how you can retain your unique personality, remaining as God made you while honoring him with your words.

[The Intimate Marriage](#) Seal Press

With over 35 years of experience as a wife, LeeAnn's concern for marriages is demonstrated as she

shares from her own life, offering wisdom to those who desire to enjoy all marriage has to offer. Writing as a mature woman who wants to help “train the younger women to love their husbands and children” (Titus 2:4), LeeAnn offers you the hard-earned lessons from her experience. LeeAnn Smucker Rawlins shows how real love answers such crucial questions such as: How can you overcome things that pull you and your husband apart? How can you restore the sparkle of courtship? How can you insure that your children will follow God? How can you be the most help to your husband in life's changing seasons?

[Married and How to Stay That Way](#) P & R Publishing

If half of all cars bought in America each year broke down, there would be a national uproar. But when people suggest that maybe every single marriage doesn't look like the next and isn't meant to last until death, there's nothing but a rash of proposed laws trying to force it to do just that. In *The New I Do*, therapist Susan Pease Gadoua and journalist Vicki Larson take a groundbreaking look at the modern shape of marriage to help readers open their minds to marrying more consciously and creatively. Offering actual models of less-traditional marriages, including everything from a parenting marriage (intended for the sake of raising and nurturing children) to a comfort or safety marriage (where people marry for financial security or companionship), the book covers unique options for couples interested in forging their own paths. With advice and quizzes to help readers decide what works for them, *The New I Do* acts as a guide to thinking outside the marital box and the framework for a new debate on marriage in the 21st century.

[The Pursuit of Joy in Singleness and Dating](#) Tyndale House Publishers, Inc.

When it comes to marriage these days, anything goes. No wonder you can find a book on marriage from every perspective—or no perspective. How can you experience a great marriage that lasts? What works? This book answers that question by shining a light on the biblical design for marriage. In a world of sexual and relational confusion, isn't it time to consult the One who created marriage? Author and pastor Chip Ingram, with his characteristic compassion, transparency, and engaging storytelling, discusses - what marriage really is - the biblical model - a man's unique role in marriage - a woman's unique role in marriage - the bigger picture of why God created marriage A marriage that works, says Ingram, is more wonderful than you thought possible and harder than you imagined—but worth the work. Couples will learn the power of making a covenant with their spouse and fulfilling their design in an atmosphere of respect, resulting in the spiritual, psychological, emotional, and physical oneness they long to have with each other.