

DEVOTIONS FOR CHRISTIAN WIVES

Joined
BY
God

SHELLIE ARNOLD

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SAMPLE CHAPTER

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Dear Reader,

Here's a sad statistic: depending on your source, only 6 to 8% of Christian couples consistently pray together for any reason other than to bless a meal. The percentage of couples who consistently read the Bible together are no higher. Writing a devotional for couples might sound like a good idea, but the reality is only a few couples would ever complete it.

My goal in writing this devotional aimed at Christian wives was to provide a tool that was easy to use and required only about ten minutes per day investment of time, yet still contained deep, quality content, while being flexible to meet the needs of any couple.

If your husband is open to working through this book together, that's fabulous. Go ahead. You can use this book as a devotional for couples. You can answer the questions and discuss them together.

But if your husband isn't one to sit and do a devotional of this type with you, you can do it, then share with him what you are learning, as directed by the communication prompts. Even if he doesn't interact directly with the material, hearing it from you and watching you grow in

your faith will have a positive impact on your marriage and might create a hunger in him for spiritual growth.

On the weekends, use the Quick Connection sections to initiate further discussion about that week's focus. This can be done in as little as five to ten minutes, but the reward from that investment will be exponential in your marriage. Simply bring it up after breakfast, or right before bed, or even while driving to church—the options are endless. The point is to engage about spiritual things, to ponder scriptural truths, and pray together even if you've never done so before.

Jesus died to redeem every part of your life. As believers, we can experience His redemption in every part of our marriages. But that only happens when we choose to consistently engage with Him, with the Bible, and with the Holy Spirit. I pray this devotional helps you and your husband do exactly that.

Shellie Arnold

A decorative, symmetrical frame composed of intricate black scrollwork and flourishes. The frame is horizontally oriented and features a central opening where the word "FOUNDATIONS" is written in a bold, black, serif font. The scrollwork is dense and elegant, with various curves and loops that create a classic, ornate border.

FOUNDATIONS

Scriptures for this Week (Eph. 5:21-33)

²¹ submitting to one another out of reverence for Christ. ²² Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. ²³ For the husband is the head of the wife even as Christ is the head of the church, his body, and is himself its Savior. ²⁴ Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit in everything to their husbands.

²⁵ Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her, ²⁶ that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, ²⁷ so that he might present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish. ²⁸ In the same way husbands should love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. ²⁹ For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ does the church, ³⁰ because we are members of his body. ³¹ “Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.” ³² This mystery is profound, and I am saying that it refers to Christ and the church. ³³ However, let each one of you love his wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects her husband.

Week One, Day One

Your Greatest Calling

Your marriage isn't only about you. Or you and your husband. Or even your children.

As believers, our marriages are supposed to point people to God and His love for them. I know that doesn't sound very romantic. And I know I might be stirring up a hornet's nest. I risk you tossing this book aside and never again picking it up.

But I care about your marriage and family too much to *not* tell you the truth. I know your heart for your family, for your children. You want to point them to God in all you do. And the truth is, your children are watching as the world is watching. One day those children will leave your home and be part of the world outside your home. And they'll still be watching.

As individuals who love God and want to follow Him, we must consider the long-term effects of what others see—what our children see—in our marriage. As the church, as believers, we must consider why so often those in the world don't believe God loves them, and what we can do about it.

Ready?

While there are several reasons those in the world don't believe God loves them—evil they see in the world, pain they and those they care about experience,

other evidences that they interpret as proof of God’s absence—there’s one tool every married believer can use to minister to every person we encounter:

A healthy, growing marriage.

Most of us are familiar with the passage at the end of Ephesians 5 regarding marriage. But I challenge you to carefully read again the passage on the previous page. Look for these six phrases:

“as to the Lord” (verse 22)

“as Christ is the head of the church” (verse 23)

“as the church submits to Christ” (verse 24)

“as Christ loved the church” (verse 25)

“in the same way” (verse 28)

“as Christ does the church” (verse 29)

As you can see, a godly, growing marriage is the primary witnessing tool the church has today. Our marriage can literally show others how God loves His children.

Don’t get me wrong. I understand there is scriptural provision for righteous divorce. I understand there are circumstances in which it would be sinful to stay in a marriage, such as when there’s abuse of spouse or children.

Still, ask any unbeliever. Ask any person, young or old, who thinks Scripture and the church are both hoey (yes, it’s a word). Eventually they will mention infidelity, adultery, and even child abuse, or some other sin they’ve seen

within the church. Or the fact the divorce rate within the church rivals that outside the church. Or that many couples who claim to be believers don't really love each other, can't stand each other, and every person who knows them knows it.

The bottom line? Here comes a tough truth and reality check. The world doesn't believe God loves them because they see the condition of our marriages and families. They see that we don't love each other. That we are unfaithful. That we lie. That we are unkind. That we withhold love, don't listen, and often relegate our husband to that of last priority.

We, who claim the name of Christ. We, who proclaim God is love, too often aren't loving to each other. The world sees it. Our kids see it. Our personal testimony suffers and with it the testimony of the church at large.

Do you want to witness to a society that's bound by lust and hatred, to those who are slaves to their own wounds and pain and ignorance?

Grow your marriage. Our marriages are supposed to be a living demonstration of Christ and His love.

Do you want a dear friend, a beloved family member, a neighbor or co-worker to come to Christ?

Strengthen your marriage. Our marriages are supposed to show the world the power, passion, and pursuing qualities of God's love.

Do you want your children to believe God loves them? That He can do anything? Heal anything? That His love is powerful and transforming and covers

a multitude of sins? That God's grace is bigger than every sin He knew we'd commit?

Cultivate. Your. Marriage.

Our marriages are supposed to prove God's love is present and active in our everyday lives.

Now, I'm really going to step on your toes. Prayerfully consider making the following changes so growth or healing can take place in your marriage.

This month, instead of sending extra money to a ministry, invest it in your marriage: for counseling or therapy, a retreat, or great resources and teaching.

This year, instead of taking a ten day missions trip, give that time to your marriage.

For the next few months, instead of attending a weekly Bible study or prayer meeting praying for and encouraging others, spend that time praying for and encouraging your husband.

I know these sound like strange suggestions. But days turn into weeks, turn into months, turn into years, and the things we let grow—whether good, or bad—will grow or die because of the time and effort we invest in them. If your marriage is strong, don't you want it to be stronger? If your marriage is gasping for breath, shouldn't you give it CPR?

Let those in the world around you, those in your extended family, your children—let them see God working miracles as He works them in **you** and **your marriage**. Let them see God's love in action through how you treat your spouse.

Let them see the changes, watch your love grow, and feel the difference of “before” vs. “after.”

That’s proof which cannot be refuted. And when someone asks (or if you’re like me, even when they don’t) you can say “God’s love is real. God’s love grows. And God’s love is for you.”

They might not believe that, but because they’re watching you, they won’t be able to argue with it.

Just for You

Think – Re-read Ephesians 5:21-33. God’s plan is to use your marriage to demonstrate the power of His love to you and others.

What does this truth imply about the importance of your marriage to God?

Thank God – for His love extended to you.

When has He manifested that love to you?

Take – strength from God’s incomprehensible love.

What do you need strength for today? For yourself? For your marriage?

Straight from God

¹⁶ that according to the riches of his glory he may grant you to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in your inner being, ¹⁷ so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith—that you, being rooted and grounded in love, ¹⁸ may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, ¹⁹ and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. (Eph. 3:16-19)

The above Scripture mentions being “rooted and grounded in love.” Spend a few moments letting God’s love fill you. How can you show love to your husband today?

For Your Marriage (choose one or more)

What would you like your husband to pray about for you? (Tell him)

What can you pray about for your husband? (Ask him)

Share the above Scripture with your husband. (Call, text, email, discuss, etc.)

Share your reaction to the idea God wants your marriage to demonstrate His love for all. (Call, text, or email, etc.)

Week One, Day Two

Never Without an Example

I know. I *know*. You've probably heard many sermons on Ephesians 5. And you're either tired of it, leery of it, or both. Hang with me. I promise this week will be worth your time and effort.

Because there's a big deal about Ephesians 5, and it's not what you think. ☺ No, I'm not talking about "submission." That's for another day, and I can't wait to drop the Submission Bomb on you—you'll never view submission the same way again. In fact, I have every confidence you'll *love* the idea of submission after hearing my take.

But I digress.

In yesterday's devotional I pointed out the six phrases like "as to the Lord," "in the same way," and "as Christ does the church" present in Ephesians 5.

Did you come from a broken home? A dysfunctional home? A hypocritical home?

Did you find God later in life? Are you a spiritual infant just getting started in your walk with God, and you know you've made mistakes in your marriage?

Do you have a pretty good marriage, although at times you wish you had a cheat sheet, or a marriage coach right there beside you, for whenever that one conflict comes that always seems to put your marriage on the brink of disaster?

The real big deal about Ephesians 5 is this: *You* hold the key to having built-in, real-time access to a living example of how to handle your marriage. The example you need is found in your relationship with God.

Think about it. Every time those phrases are mentioned—Christ and the church, and the like—it’s speaking of *your* relationship with God.

How can you learn how to give and receive love in your marriage? Learn to give and receive love in your relationship with God, then copy those habits.

How can you learn to give and receive forgiveness in your marriage? Learn how God forgives, how you can receive forgiveness, and again, copy those habits.

See, my relationship with God isn’t simply where I get the strength, love, and steadfastness to stay in my marriage.

My relationship with God *is* my example—I learn from it as I live it.

Every day, every moment, you and I have unlimited, fathomless access to the perfect example of love, loving, and being loved. We find it in our relationship with God.

During the times you don’t know what to do in your marriage. When the same issue surfaces over and over and you’ve hit what appears to be a dead end. When you behave badly, and you know you have a mess to clean up, but don’t know how. During the times everything is fine, then you’re blind-sided by catastrophe.

During the good times, when you and your husband are cruising along on the Love Train.

Take a moment. Pay attention and consider: where are you in relation to God? Where is your marriage in relation to God? Does He seem far away? Inattentive? Silent? Is He right there, smiling, rejoicing, and singing over you and your husband?

Then, alone and with your husband, spend time in God's presence. Waiting on Him. Listening to Him.

Learn to watch for Him and His influence, in yourselves and in each other.

The example you need when facing the next big challenge or the challenge you're in now, is right there with you. You never have to feel stuck or stagnant again.

Just for You

Think – Re-read this week’s Scripture passage. You are never alone in your marriage.

How can this truth help you every day in your marriage?

Thank God – you are never without the best example for your marriage.

In what areas of your marriage do you need to emulate Jesus? In what areas of your life?

Take – comfort in the truth you are never without guidance to strengthen your marriage.

How can this comfort help you rest in God today?

Straight from God

Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. (Matt. 11:29)

The above Scripture mentions being finding rest as we learn from Jesus. What have you learned from God within the last day, week, or month? How can those truths help you in your marriage?

For Your Marriage (choose one or more)

Share the above Scripture with your husband. (Call, text, email, discuss, etc.)

What would you like to learn from Jesus? (Share that with your husband)

Share your progress as you learn from Jesus.

Week One, Day Three

The Best Thing You Can Do for Your Marriage

I'm an introvert, I'm hyper-sensitive—which means I don't have big feelings, I *am* one big feeling—and I'm a novelist. Which means I could live in my head. Literally, I could spend my days watching the movie-stories in my mind.

To say I'm list-dependent is an understatement. (Yes, please pray for my husband when you think of him.) And having too many options, like a plethora of icons on my computer screen, almost makes me break out in hives.

What does any of this have to do with the best thing you can do for your marriage?

No matter your personality. Your background. Your experience or lack thereof. Your knowledge, education, age, or income. No matter your secret wounds or the private obstacles you face.

The best thing you can do for your marriage is standard, timeless, dependable, and guarantees the best return on investment.

Grow your relationship with God.

We continue this week with the same text from Ephesians 5 verses 21-33, and once again, I ask you to pay careful attention to phrases like “as to the Lord” and “Christ and the church.”

Here's the thing: if you want your marriage to be strong. If you want your marriage to thrive. If you want to simply care (because right now you don't) that your marriage thrives. If you want your marriage to last and be loving and caring, and enjoyable and fulfilling and strong.

Grow your relationship with God.

When you are close to God, when you have fellowship with the Holy Spirit, that's when you'll know what you should and shouldn't do at any given moment. What you should and shouldn't say.

Sometimes it's right to act, but sometimes it's best to be still. Sometimes it's helpful to speak, and other times words will only cause strife.

How do you know when to do what? How can you know which way is best?

If you grow your relationship with God, you'll learn to live as God wants you to live. You will learn to live righteously—just like Jesus lived. And righteousness is always the right answer in marriage.

Righteous behavior is the best behavior for any situation, no matter how big or small. Righteousness is the only rule you need to know.

But you can't live righteously without God's help, without His power and provision and guidance. Which is why you and I must be close to Him. We can't afford not to be. When we aren't close to God, the first human relationship that will suffer is our marriage.

The good news? You can start right now, no matter where you are, no matter what you've done or neglected or broken.

Start now. If you've never started a relationship with God, visit <http://peacewithgod.net> a web site of the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association. Or affirm your relationship with God right now, by talking to Him. He longs to love you and teach you everything you need to know. From this day forward, you can choose to make your marriage better than you ever dreamed.

Just for You

Think – Re-read this week’s Scripture passage. God’s plan is that your marriage benefits from your walk with Him.

In what way has your relationship with God benefited your marriage, or in what way can it benefit your marriage?

Thank God – that as He refines and strengthens you, He is doing the same to your marriage.

In what area of your life is He challenging you to righteousness?

Take – direction from God as He leads you toward righteousness.

What’s the first thing God wants you to do to follow righteousness in that specific area?

Straight from God

He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake.
(Psalm 23:3)

The above Scripture mentions being led in paths of righteousness. When has God taught you or changed you step-by-step? How can that experience encourage you as you walk a new righteous path with God today?

For Your Marriage (choose one or more)

In what area of your life is God leading you to righteousness? (Tell your husband)

Ask your husband the question above.

Share the above Scripture with your husband. (Call, text, email, discuss, etc.)

Share with each other a time you knew God was leading you in right paths.

Week One, Day Four

I'm Not a Mind-Reader, but I Can Probably Tell You the Biggest Problem in Your Marriage

No, I didn't just hack into your private email, text messages, or Facebook account. I can barely work the microwave, and I only recently learned to text. Not kidding.

Still, without seeing you, without talking to you or even knowing your name, I can probably tell you the biggest problem in your marriage.

It's whatever you haven't yet, or won't, talk about with God.

Remember we're studying Ephesians 5:21-33, and seeing how our relationship with God has a direct impact on our marriage? This means anything that affects our relationship with God will directly affect our marriage.

The secret habit you have that God occasionally spotlights, and you haven't yet been able to beat? That's it.

The behavior that you know is wrong and immature, and your pastor spoke on last Sunday? That's it.

The sin God has been actively confronting in you? That's it.

The weakness God continues to address, showing you Scriptures, leading you to mentors, and constantly puts right in front of your face? That's it.

The hurt inside you need to let God heal, because you're living reacting to it, and your reactions are ruining your relationships? Yep. That's it.

The biggest problem in your marriage is the one you haven't yet:

Tackled with God.

Surrendered to God.

Overcome, with God's help.

Let God heal.

Think about it. The temper you have? Who bears the brunt of it? Probably your husband. And your children.

The secret addiction? What relationship suffers the most? Your marriage. Your family.

The wounds you carry from childhood that hinder the closeness and intimacy for which you and your husband both yearn. The coping mechanisms you acquired from those wounds that cause behaviors you can't seem to stop. Who suffers right alongside you, as that part of your marriage remains stunted and weak? Your husband.

Whatever you refuse to talk to God about will negatively affect your marriage. Whatever you refuse to confront—with God's help—will negatively affect your marriage.

And, it's within your power to fix it. To stop the pain and start healing.

It's not a big deal you say.

Isn't it?

Did Jesus die so you could have a mediocre marriage? Sporadic intimacy? Weak love? Or downright misery and loneliness in a relationship that is supposed to reflect His love for His people?

Jesus already paid for everything you need to have a healthy, fulfilling marriage. It's all there at the foot of the Cross—presents, if you will, wrapped and waiting for you to open and receive. What gift do you need to pick up and open today? Love? Patience? Self-control? Deliverance? Inner-healing? Joy? Or simple kindness?

It's all there. And more. And more, and more, and more.

The stacks of gifts are endless. And every package has **your** name on it.

Just for You

Think – Re-read this week’s Scripture passage. Every righteous act benefits your marriage. Every sin harms your marriage.

Within the last week, how have you seen the above statement to be true?

Thank God – for His work in you, always drawing you to righteousness.

What successes have you had this week in your walk with God?

Take – courage that God will always be at work in you.

What work do you wish God would do in you today?

Straight from God

And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ. (Phil. 1:6)

The above Scripture mentions God's faithfulness to complete His work in us. What work do you want God to complete in you? How will your life, or behavior, or outlook, or attitude change when that work is complete?

For Your Marriage (choose one or more)

Regarding the work you want God to do in you, what is the biggest obstacle to letting God complete this work?

Ask your husband the question above.

Share the above Scripture with your husband. (Call, text, email, discuss, etc.)

Pray together about these challenges and commit to pray for each other about them.

Week One, Day Five

The Submission Bomb—It Changes Everything

The subject of submission makes many folks uncomfortable. Some completely avoid it. Like mammograms. Or colonoscopies.

We don't like the implications. We fear what truth might be revealed. We don't want bad news, or limitations, or to be told what our future holds.

Add to that the numerous sermons which include a definition from Webster's dictionary—really? Webster's is the best a pastor or expert can do—and many believers would prefer to remove the concept from their Bibles.

I hope by now you've read the passage in Ephesians 5:21-33 several times this week. Grit your teeth if you must at the mention of submission, but please, *please* bear with me. Because contrary to popular (or unpopular) opinion, it's neither a four-letter word, nor does it mean being a doormat or subservient in a negative sense.

Rather, submission is POWER.

Submission—when manifested correctly, when used righteously—changes everything.

Righteous submission in marriage is like a bomb. It obliterates barriers and obstacles, and it creates an environment where all can be made new.

Does that sound strange? Heretical? Stay with me. *Think* with me.

If being a believer means being made into the image of Christ, and if marriage between believers is a picture of Christ and the church, then as married believers we have a scriptural mandate to copy Jesus in every circumstance and situation, especially and including the area of submission.

Was Jesus a doormat? Was he subservient in a negative way? Was he stupid? Less a human, less a man? Of course, not.

Jesus was perfect, righteous, and sinless. He said only what the Father told Him to say (John 12:49-50), and He did all the Father told Him to do (John 15:19). Jesus lived in complete submission to the Father's will, even to the point of death (Phil. 2:8), and His death on the Cross bought our salvation and spiritual freedom.

That is power.

Now I ask you: What if Jesus had said *no* to the Father, about anything? What if He'd said, "I agree to become a man, grow up misunderstood and labeled, then become a preacher and teacher, perform miracles and heal the sick...but I'm not going to die for mankind's sins. That's where I draw the line."

Where would you and I be? What hope would there be for any of us?

But Jesus didn't do that. Yes, He *submitted* to the Father's plan, but not in a doormat kind of way. He didn't simply let whatever was going to happen, happen. His attitude wasn't one of "Oh, well, I guess I'm going to be crucified now."

No. Jesus knew why He was here. Jesus knew His destiny. And here's the Submission Bomb: Jesus put all of His human power—His attitude, energy, and effort—behind the Father's will. He worked to do it all, even when it hurt, even when it cost Him, even when loving, giving, and healing others were the hardest things to do.

How much stress is a person under when the pressure is so great the capillaries beneath the skin break and bleed (Luke 22:44)?

How difficult do you think it was to take the time, to *care* at all, and heal the soldier's ear while being arrested (Luke 22:51)?

How tough was it to watch Peter pull back, to feel Peter's abandonment? To be beaten, tortured, abused, mocked, wounded, and accused?

Still, Jesus submitted to the Father's long-term plan. Jesus didn't try to pretend He wasn't there. He wasn't zoned out or in a stupor. He didn't escape the horror and pain through television, or social media, or shopping, or binge-eating.

He faced it all, felt it all, and gave all He had to obey the Father's instructions, even to the point of death. Christ's submission rent the temple veil, broke death's hold over us, and provided for our salvation.

That's power. That's scriptural submission: When you and I put all that we are, put everything in us behind God's plan and keep moving toward it no matter the cost.

That's what breaks strongholds within us and breaks down walls within a marriage. When a husband or wife puts everything he or she has behind God's plan and is determined to see it through whatever the cost.

And that, my friends, is what creates an environment where miracles happen. Where love replaces animosity. Where joy replaces complacency. Where passion replaces indifference. Where stability replaces fear.

I'd planned to challenge or dare you to embrace this perspective. But my burden for your home, for your marriage is so great—instead, I beg you. Study Jesus. Look at His submission to the Father through this filter, and ask God how applying this truth can strengthen and unify your marriage.

There's power in submission. Power you can use to conquer every weapon coming against your marriage. Take the Submission Bomb and go blow something up!

Just for You

Think – Re-read this week’s Scripture passage. Submission to God and His work is one of your greatest spiritual weapons.

What beliefs about submission have hindered you from using this weapon?

Thank God – for Jesus’ example of submission and strength.

What behaviors of Jesus show submission combined with strength?

Take – peace from God in the knowledge every difficult-yet-righteous thing He asks you to do will benefit both your relationship with Him and your marriage.

What area of your marriage (expectations, demands, plans, etc.) do you need to submit to God right now?

Straight from God

And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. (Phil. 2:8)

The above Scripture mentions Jesus being obedient to the point of death. What habits, beliefs, or attitudes are prohibiting you from being obedient? How can you submit those habits, beliefs, and attitudes to God?

For Your Marriage (choose one or more)

What is one area you haven't submitted to God?

What are the current consequences of your unwillingness to submit to God?

Share the above Scripture with your husband. (Call, text, email, discuss, etc.)

If submission has been a difficult topic in your marriage, discuss and seek counsel regarding adopting the definition stated in this devotional.

Quick Connection for the Weekend

Which topic from this week most spoke to you? Why?

your marriage as a witnessing tool
value of righteousness in marriage
Jesus as your example in marriage

sin as a hindrance to your marriage
the power of submission

Deeper Connection

What part of Ephesians 5:21-33 do you find most encouraging?

How can this truth help you grow in God and in your marriage?

What part of Ephesians 5:21-33 do you find most challenging?

What do you need from God to meet this challenge?

In verse 32, Paul uses the word “mystery” regarding marriage, and Christ and the church. What parts of God do you find most mysterious? Why?

Discuss how your spiritual growth or lack thereof helps/hinders your marriage.

Spiritual growth takes honesty, humility, and effort. Is it time for you to confess an error? Repent of sin? Get help for hurts you brought to the marriage? Seek counseling to learn new skills?

Carry it Forward

What is one thing you need from your husband to help you meet this week’s greatest challenge?

What is one thing you can do for your husband to help him with this weeks’ greatest challenge?

Pray Together:

Heavenly Father, Thank You for your word that leads us to righteousness. Thank You for the Holy Spirit who teaches us to follow You. We submit to all You are doing in our lives and marriage. Help us love You and each other more each day. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Hey there! I hope you enjoyed this sample of *Joined by God*. I anticipate releasing this devotional in April 2021. I plan to release a second devotional, *Love and Loving*, by July 2021. These are the first two of many devotionals and other resources that will be available through my web site www.shelliearnold.com.

If you enjoy reading fiction, check out my first three novels in The Barn Church series. These stories focus on three marriages within the same church. Each book looks at one issue that can be present in a marriage, and how that couple learns to work with God to grow their faith and heal their marriage. All three are available at www.shelliearnold.com/novels, as well as other online retailers.



Without the proper foundation, even the most beautiful building, or marriage, can collapse.

We all come to marriage with expectations, ideas, knowledge, and suppositions. If we don't measure these against God's truths, we will create our own fallacies. That's when the foundation of our marriage can shift as on sand, bringing us to the brink of disaster.

Joined by God explores common misconceptions about marriage and critical truths from Scripture, guides wives through analyzing their marriage, and reveals what can be done to immediately improve it.

**Give God seven weeks.
Let Him change your life
and your marriage.**



Shellie Arnold is an author, speaker, homeschool mom, sexual abuse survivor, and Biblical marriage advocate. She believes any marriage can thrive if husbands and wives learn to hear and work with God. Visit her at shelliearnold.com.

Jesus died to redeem every part of your life.

Experience His redemption
in every part of your marriage.



Your Marriage Resources