

THE BULLDOZER

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You can't build a better home when you start with a bitter heart.

Matthew 19:4-6 "Jesus replied, 'At the beginning the Creator 'made them male and female,' and said, 'For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh'. So they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate."

There has to be a LEAVING before there can be a CLEAVING.

Three Areas to Address with God's Holy Ghost Bulldozer

1. EXPECTATIONS.

Psalm 62:5-6 "My soul, wait silently for God alone, for my expectation is from Him. He only is my rock and my salvation; He is my defense; I shall not be moved"

When your expectations exceed your experience in marriage, you'll be frustrated.

James 4:1-2 "What is causing the quarrels and fights among you? Don't they come from the evil desires at war within you? You want what you don't have, so you scheme and kill to get it..."

1 Timothy 6:6 "Godliness with contentment is great gain."

It's not the content of your bank account that makes a good marriage.
It's the content of your hearts.

1 John 4:19 "We love because He first loved us."

2. **EMOTIONAL BAGGAGE.**

Hebrews 12:15 "See to it that no one falls short of the grace of God and that no bitter root grows up to cause trouble and defile many."

If you walked your way into a mess, you need to follow Jesus and walk your way out.

1 Peter 3:7 "Husbands, in the same way be considerate as you live with your wives, and treat them with respect as the weaker partner and as heirs with you of the gracious gift of life, so that nothing will hinder your prayers."

Matthew 5:23-24 "Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother or sister has something against you, leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to them; then come and offer your gift."

3. EGO.

James 4:7,8,10 "So humble yourselves before God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Come close to God, and God will come close to you. Humble yourselves before the Lord, and He will lift you up in honor."

When you have a disagreement with your spouse, you are faced with a choice between 'virtue' and 'hurt you'. When you choose virtue, God will intervene and help you resolve the conflict.

Luke 9:23 "Jesus said to the crowd, 'If any of you wants to be My follower, you must give up your own way, take up your cross daily, and follow Me."

Ephesians 5:2 "Live a life filled with love, following the example of Christ. He loved us and offered Himself as a sacrifice for us..."

Ephesians 5:21-22, 25 "Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ. For wives, this means submit to your husbands as to the Lord. For

husbands, this means love your wives, just as Christ loved the church. He gave up His life for her."

Luke 6:41-42 "And why worry about a speck in your friend's eye when you have a log in your own? How can you think of saying, 'Friend, let me help you get rid of that speck in your eye,' when you can't see past the log in your own eye? Hypocrite! First get rid of the log in your own eye; then you will see well enough to deal with the speck in your friend's eye."

You can't build a happy home when you start with an unhappy heart.

James 3:12 "Does a fig tree produce olives, or a grapevine produce figs? No, and you can't draw fresh water from a salty spring."

Memory Verse: Matthew 19:5-6 "Jesus said, 'For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh'. So they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate."

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