

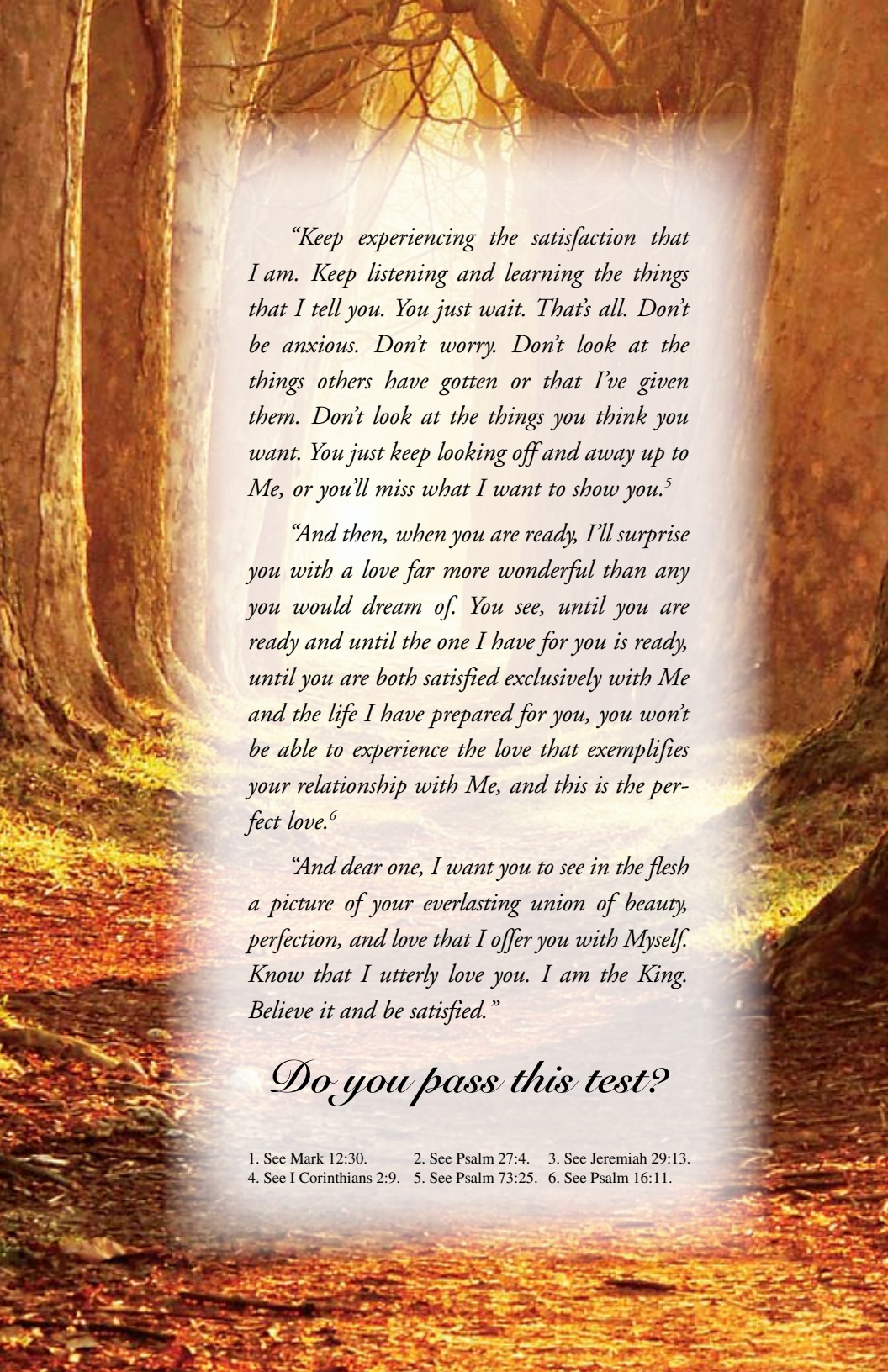
The Ultimate Secret

Everyone longs to give themselves completely to someone—to have a deep soul relationship with another—to be loved thoroughly and exclusively.

But to a believer, God says, “No, not until you are satisfied, fulfilled, and content with being loved by Me alone—with giving yourself totally and unreservedly to Me—to having an intensely personal and unique relationship with Me alone.”^{1, 2}

“Only as you discover satisfaction in Me will you be capable of the perfect human relationship that I have planned for you. You will never be truly united with another until you are united with Me—exclusive of anyone or anything else, exclusive of any other desires or longings.”³

“I want you to stop planning, stop wishing, and allow Me to give you the most thrilling plan existing—one that you cannot imagine. I want you to have the best. Please allow Me to bring it to you. Just keep watching Me, expecting the greatest things.”⁴



“Keep experiencing the satisfaction that I am. Keep listening and learning the things that I tell you. You just wait. That’s all. Don’t be anxious. Don’t worry. Don’t look at the things others have gotten or that I’ve given them. Don’t look at the things you think you want. You just keep looking off and away up to Me, or you’ll miss what I want to show you.”⁵

“And then, when you are ready, I’ll surprise you with a love far more wonderful than any you would dream of. You see, until you are ready and until the one I have for you is ready, until you are both satisfied exclusively with Me and the life I have prepared for you, you won’t be able to experience the love that exemplifies your relationship with Me, and this is the perfect love.”⁶

“And dear one, I want you to see in the flesh a picture of your everlasting union of beauty, perfection, and love that I offer you with Myself. Know that I utterly love you. I am the King. Believe it and be satisfied.”

Do you pass this test?

1. See Mark 12:30. 2. See Psalm 27:4. 3. See Jeremiah 29:13.
4. See I Corinthians 2:9. 5. See Psalm 73:25. 6. See Psalm 16:11.

The Challenge

When Is a Young Man Qualified for Marriage?

“I have written unto you, young men, because ye are strong, and the word of God abideth in you, and ye have overcome the wicked one” (1 John 2:14).

1. When He Is a Conqueror

Before David was allowed to marry the king’s daughter, he was required to demonstrate to the king that he was a mighty conqueror.

Similarly, a man who is considering marriage must demonstrate that he has conquered seven giants in his own life: anger, guilt, lust, bitterness, greed, fear, and envy. If he is in bondage to any of these, he will disillusion his wife, destroy his marriage, and damage his children.

These giants have physical manifestations, but they are rooted in the powers of evil that must be skillfully disabled by the powerful weapons that God has given to us, as Paul states: “We wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places” (Ephesians 6:12).

A young man who is skillful in wielding the sword of God’s Spirit will be able to say with Paul, “In all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us” (Romans 8:37).



As a mighty warrior, every suitor must conquer the seven giants in his life.



A Christian girl whom a young man wants to marry is actually a princess, because she is a daughter of the King of Kings.



It is very likely that the girl you want to marry is held captive by fears, hurts, and lies. In order for her to be free, she needs someone who can use the truth of God's Word to disable Satan's grip on her life.



In our battle against spiritual wickedness, we must have our "loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness; and your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace; above all, taking the shield of faith And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God" (Ephesians 6:14–17).

2. When He Is a Rescuer

Only when a young man conquers the spiritual giants in his own life will he be able to carry out the great works that God calls him to do for others.

These great works are described by Jesus: "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised" (Luke 4:18).

Any doubt that we are to carry out these works was addressed by Jesus, when He said, "He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father" (John 14:12).

One reward for learning how to carry out these great works is the ability to prepare a wife for a successful marriage. Husbands are to love their wives "even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it [His Bride]; that he might sanctify and cleanse it [her] with the washing of water by the word, that he might present it [her] to himself a glorious church [His Bride], not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it [she] should be holy and without blemish. So ought men to love their wives as their own bodies. He that loveth his wife loveth himself" (Ephesians 5:25–28). Husbands are to follow Christ's example as they love their brides.

In order to understand how to rescue a wife from the deceptions of Satan, we must go back to the account of Eve and discover how Satan deceived her. Paul combines the concept of preparing a bride and understanding Eve's deception in the following

passage: “For I am jealous over you with godly jealousy: for I have espoused you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ. But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtlety, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity [sincerity] that is in Christ” (II Corinthians 11:2–3).

Rescue Her From Ungratefulness

No woman had greater cause to be grateful than Eve. Eve had the privilege of listening to God’s voice on a daily basis. She had a loving husband with no possibility of competition from other women. She had ideal weather every day with no clouds or rain. Every morning a mist went up from the ground to water the lush garden and all the fruit trees that were available for them to enjoy. Ample financial resources of pure gold and precious stones were also abundant.

In spite of all these provisions, there is indication that Eve did not have a grateful spirit, because she demonstrated a lack of contentment.

Rescue Her From Discontent

An ungrateful person will soon become discontent with the things he has been given—no matter how great and how many they are. Contentment is not something we possess when we are born. It is a quality that we must learn. Paul stated, “I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content” (Philippians 4:11).

Eve had every conceivable benefit that a woman could want, yet she desired something that God had not given her and in fact was withholding from her because He knew that it would destroy her life. Contentment is realizing that God has already given me everything that I need for my present happiness.



A person with an ungrateful spirit looks for things to criticize, but one with a grateful spirit notices a multitude of things for which to be thankful. How long would your list of things such as the gift of time, health, the air you breathe, sunshine, the wisdom of God’s Word, and most of all your relationship with Christ be?



We learn contentment by delighting in the things that God has given us, not longing for things that He has not given us. If we are not satisfied with the things we have, we will never be happy with the things that we want.



Our only delight must be God and His Word, with no competing affections. We should engraft the commands of Christ in our souls and then transfer them to our hearts by meditation.

(See Jeremiah 15:16.)



If the one you want to marry is looking to you for security, validation, or fulfillment, she is making you her god and she will become disillusioned and bitter when you fail her. Solomon reports that a woman with wrong designs is more bitter than death. (See

Ecclesiastes 7:26.)

Rescue Her From Satan's Lies

When Eve realized the tragic mistake she had made, she blamed Satan for deceiving her. However, Scripture reveals that Satan is able to bring his temptations only after we have allowed our own lusts to draw us away from God. "But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed. Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death" (James 1:14-15).

Satan's strategy in beguiling Eve was to get her to doubt the Word of God. Satan began by saying, "Hath God said?" When Eve listened to these doubts, Satan directly contradicted God's command, saying, "Ye shall not surely die" (Genesis 3:1).

The cruellest lies are half-truths that are designed to deceive. When God said, "Ye shall die," He was referring to the death of their spirits. When Satan said, "Ye shall not surely die" (Genesis 3:4), he was referring to their bodies and souls, which would live on.

We can be confident that Satan is filling the minds of girls as well as fellows with lies, because he is the father of lies. (See John 8:44.) The lies may be half-truths, but they still disable a girl's mind and emotions until they are conquered by truth.

Rescue Her From Idolatry

Once Satan has planted his doubts and discredited the protective authorities that God has placed around a girl, she will begin to look to other people or things to get what only God can give. This is the basis of idolatry, which is expecting from people or things what only God can give.

Satan offered Eve wisdom. True wisdom comes only from God. Satan assured her that the forbidden

fruit would give her the ability to decide for herself what was right and wrong. Only God can tell us what is right and wrong.

Idolatry blocks our escape from temptation. (See I Corinthians 10:13–14.) When a girl listens to the lies of Satan and shifts her focus from God to other things or people, she will reach out and take the forbidden fruit that is offered to her. The results will be a painful experience and more lies from Satan. These lies include:

- I am worthless.
- I am a failure.
- My life is a hopeless mess.
- I am out of place.
- I cannot please anyone.
- I was a mistake.
- There is no point in living.
- I am only in the way.
- I should just end it all.

Rescue Her From Deadly Stresses

When a girl violates her conscience she will immediately experience guilt, just as Eve did. But then, like Eve, she will look for someone to blame. She may blame her parents, her upbringing, or her friends who claim to be Christians but are hypocrites. She may even blame God. This guilt and blame will foster other deadly stresses such as bitterness, lust, greed, fear, and envy.

These stresses will release a cascade of adrenaline and cortisol that will upset her hormonal balance and bring about disease symptoms. Medical tests will often be unable to find a physical cause, because the symptoms are stress-induced.

Instead of identifying and resolving the root cause of stress, doctors will usually prescribe a drug that is



The lies that a girl believes are like ruthless tyrants that rob her of joy, vitality, peace, creativity, and the ability to love God and others. These lies will control her thoughts, emotions, and decisions. Therefore, they must be overcome with truth.



If the painful experiences of a wife are not resolved before marriage, then whenever her husband says or does something that reminds her of them she will explode in anger. This will cause him to either respond in anger or close off his spirit to her and build walls to protect himself.



One of the most damaging stresses is fear. Therefore, God tells us hundreds of times in Scripture not to fear. Most wrong decisions can be traced to fears such as a fear of rejection, a fear of the future, a fear of failure, etc. A husband must teach his wife how to conquer fear with perfect love.



In the same way that a warrior in the Middle Ages was knighted for conquest in defending his home and country, so a man must receive the anointing of God's power through the laying on of hands.

designed to “manage” the symptom. However, the drug is often toxic. The body system is also toxic due to the stress. Thus, there is an immediate toxic overload, which is called a “side effect” of the drug. In order to remedy this new disease symptom, another drug is prescribed and the cycle repeats itself.

At this point, the girl may be approached by a young man for marriage. He has no knowledge of the underlying stresses or the fears and lies that are controlling her life.

If they are married in this condition, he will have to share her trust with her doctor, and his assets with the hospital, or another man if she gets a divorce.

Power for the Rescue

The rescue of a girl who is caught in the web of Satan's lies and her emotional stresses cannot be accomplished with human wisdom. The wisdom and power of God are required.

We receive this power when we repent of our pride, sin, and selfishness and receive the Lord Jesus Christ as our Savior. It deepens as we are baptized and as we dedicate our bodies to God as living sacrifices. (See Romans 12:1–2.)

Next we are ready for the power and love that come by the laying on of hands by Godly elders. Paul said to Timothy: “Stir up the gift of God, which is in thee by the putting on of my hands. For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind” (II Timothy 1:6–7).

This laying on of hands is a foundational principle of the Gospel of Christ. Thus, Paul stated, “Leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on unto perfection [maturity]; not laying again the foundation of

- “repentance from dead works,”
- “and of faith toward God,”
- “of the doctrine of baptisms,”
- “and of laying on of hands . . . ” (Hebrews 6:1–2).

The first three principles mentioned previously are for every believer. Why, then, have we neglected the fourth principle?

The tragic results are that we are powerless to conquer sin in our own lives or help others gain freedom.

The Price of Not Rescuing

Every man who anticipates marriage must be a strong, courageous, and skillful rescuer of his wife-to-be from the hurts and fears that are holding her captive.

These factors are causing her to have the stresses of anger, guilt, lust, bitterness, greed, fear, and envy. If a man gets married before conquering these enemies, his wife will tend to overreact to him every time he says or does something that reminds her of a past hurt. He, no doubt, will be offended by her overreaction and will either respond in anger or build walls around himself in order not to get hurt by her.

These wrong responses will confirm to her that he does not understand her and that he does not love her. Ideally these stresses should be cleared up by the girl’s father. However, many fathers have the same stresses and need help themselves.

3. When He Teaches God’s Truth

A man’s authority does not come by stating, “This is what I think” but rather by declaring, “Thus saith the Lord!” God’s Word is our authority.

Before God brought a wife to Adam, God gave Adam a set of commands. He was to make decisions

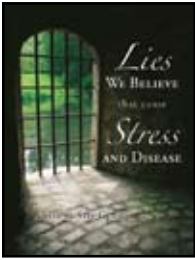


Most women do not think that men understand them, and they are right. A woman gives independent and often conflicting statements from her mind, will, emotions, or heart. A man must ask himself, “Did she just speak from her mind, will, emotions, or heart?”



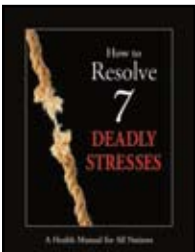
In a marriage, the husband is to be the priest of his family and sanctify them by the Word that he engrafs into his heart. Jesus said that for the sake of His disciples, He sanctified Himself, “that they also might be sanctified through the truth” (John 17:19). This skill is a must for any man who wants to get married.

Training Manuals



Lies We Believe That Cause Stress and Disease

The first step in helping a daughter or a potential wife to be free from bondage is to free her from the lies that she may be believing and then the fears that result from these lies. This manual gives step-by-step direction on how to do this.



How to Resolve 7 Deadly Stresses

Once the lies and fears are resolved, the painful memories need to be transformed in order to resolve stress. This resource explains how.

based on these commands, but they were not just for him. Adam was to teach them to his family for generations to come. Similarly, Jesus has given to us specific commands that are not just for us. They are to be taught to our families and to all the nations of the world. (See Matthew 28:19–20.)

In order for a man to teach these commands to others, he must first apply them in his own life. He must be able to say, “Here is how I conquered anger, guilt, lust, bitterness, greed, fear, and envy.”

With these firsthand experiences, he will be able to help others gain victory and freedom. Basic steps to conquer stresses include these:

1. Thank God for past hurts.

If we love God, we can be sure that He intended to give us benefits through the hurtful experiences we have had. (See Romans 8:28.) List the benefits that God intended when He allowed the offenses to take place, and then thank God for them.

2. Bless offenders with Godly qualities.

By asking God to bless our offenders with the Godly character qualities they need to develop, we neutralize the pain of our hurt and impart to them the power to develop these qualities. This is why we are told to “bless them that curse you” (Luke 6:28).

3. Fully forgive offenders.

Forgiveness involves releasing offenders emotionally and choosing to live with the scars. This must be done with the whole heart and not just with the intellect. If we refuse to forgive others, God will not release us from the physical, mental, and emotional consequences of bitterness. (See Matthew 18:15–35.)