"A Fruitful Marriage"

By

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The Fruitful Marriage

“If You Don’t See A Need To Change You Will Not”

“Nothing Happens To Make A Change In A Marriage Without Making A Permanent Decision”

Harold W. Fuller
Table of Contents

1. About the author’s marriage
2. Myths about marriage
3. Why are you getting married?
4. What is fruit?
5. Types of marriage fruit
6. Insects that will destroy your fruit
7. You are a cultivator
8. EIIPR solution
9. Before making a decision
10. Finances
11. Marriage Evaluation
12. Benefits of Marriage
13. Yes we can
14. Why purchase the book?
15. Additional resources
To Gloria, the love of my past, present and future, who has made our marriage very fruitful. Also, to my two beautiful daughters (both inside and outside) who I love and appreciate very much.

Marriage can be good or bad, choose good through commitment, unselfishness, patience, kindness and agape love.
About The Author’s Marriage

Gloria and I have been married for 40 years, as of July 25, 2010. We have two daughters that are contributors to society. One is a stay home mother; the other one is a speech pathologist and not married, yet.

The challenges to all if not most marriages are “Dying To Self” and “Selfishness”. The ability to be honest is paramount in a lasting relationship. Honesty starts with each individual being willing to evaluate their hidden experiences, fears and parental upbringing.

Marriage is beautiful because it allows two individuals to blend their backgrounds together and be contributors to society.
Hopefully, after you read this book one will be able to discover the pitfalls and benefits of being married a long period of time. The more each is willing to change, thus benefiting the whole relationship for longevity. Regardless, of what wind, storm or situation occurs, the response is “Sweetheart, Yes We Can “conquer this situation successfully together.
Myths about Marriage

1. Marriage is 50-50.
2. I can change him or her.
4. Having children brings a married couple closer.
5. Couples who live together before marriage have a longer and lasting marriage.
6. Cohabitation is just like marriage, but without the “piece of paper”.
Why Are You Getting Married?

1. Love at first sight - weak foundation.
2. Rebounding - previous relationship.
3. Rebellion - getting even with others.
4. Loneliness - desires to belong.
5. Obligation - to guilty to break it off.
7. Pressure - from peers and family.
What is Fruit?

F= have some **Fun**.

have **Faith** in each other.

R= **Reward** each other with kindness.

**Respect** each other daily.

U= **Unlock** the treasure inside one another

**Unite** verse individualism

I= **Maintain Intimacy** during all seasons

**Inspect** and make changes
T= Trust one another

Control your Tongue
Types of Marriage Fruit

**Kiwi**-requires a long growing season. Marriage adjustment period is lengthen due to their backgrounds and perception of marriage.

1. **Grape**-the seed is healthier than the fruit itself. Their background and commitment is stronger than personal challenges.

2. **Cherry**-bruises easily, handle with care. One of the mates very sensitive and must be shown a great amount of attention, before maturing.

3. **Banana**-easy to carry and no need to be washed, before eating. Both individuals are willing to make the necessary changes to strengthen the marriage.

4. **Blueberry**-preventive measures are taken before danger occurs. Both are willing to examine their relationship and make the necessary changes before danger.
5. **Plum** - protects the eyes. Both enter the marriage seeking ways to improve and strengthen the relationship.

6. **Avocado** - hard covering on the outside. One or both are persuade their way of doing things is the best way. If mates are willing to give each other time to mature their hearts will become rich and healthy.

7. **Pomegranate** - long storage life. Marriage becomes more flavorful and juicy with giving to each other.

8. **Watermelon** - possess many internal seeds. A variety of challenges at the beginning of the marriage. However, once proven the marriage become strong and possess the ability to overcome future challenges with easy.

9. **Orange** - can be bitter or sweet. Individuals are moved by their feelings, thus vacillating back and forth causing confusion in decision making.
10. **Apple**-ability to deal with a variety of situations. Mates have the knowhow to address many situations at the same time successfully.

11. **Nectarine**-fail to see the origin of a situation. Prefer not to face the reality of a situation chooses to go back to past to justify one’s actions.
Insects That Will Destroy Your Fruit

(Insects to your marriage)

1. Selfishness-me only and only me.
2. Self-Centered-concerned only with one’s own affairs and feelings.
3. Self-Deception-deceiving one’s true feelings, motives or circumstances.
4. Self-Interest-one’s own interest or advantage only.
5. Mindset—a fixed mental attitude formed by education or experience, refusal to change.
6. Pride-excessive belief in one’s own worth or superior to others.
7. Strife-quarreling or fighting without seeking or desiring resolution.
8. Stubbornness-refusing to yield or agree, resisting to a needed change.
9. Non-Listener-waiting to respond, not paying attention to what is being shared.
You Are A Cultivator

Tools Required: The proper words
The appropriate actions
The ability to forgive
The agape love

How To Utilize The Tools:

1. Your Mouth
2. Your Actions
3. Your Commitment
4. Your Endurance
5. Victorious Mindset
EIPR Solution
(ENGAGE-IMPLEMENT-PURSUE-RESIST)

ENGAGE(Combat)
What combat are you in now?
1.
2.
3.

IMPLEMENT

Develop a strategy to receive the permanent solution, once and for all.
1.
2.
3.
PURSUE

What Cost Are You Willing To Pay?

1.
2.
3.

RESIST

What is your endurance level?

1.
2.
3.
Before Making A Decision

“ Do The HEC”

H= Humble Yourself

E=Examine Yourself

C=Consider Your Ways

Self-examination Questions:

1. When was the last time you did the HEC?

2. Are You Willing To Do The HEC?
FINANCES

Prior to marriage both individuals have developed certain spending habits, and specific views about spending, investing and saving. To keep a balance relative to finances both mates must come to an agreement on the distributions of finances.

1. Don’t despise small beginnings
2. Pay yourself
3. Invest
4. Leave an inheritance
5. Make Charitable Contributions
Marriage Evaluation
(The Love Test)
Each should rate themselves, afterward rate each other and compare differences. Establish ways to resolve differences. When was the last time each of you demonstrated the seven items below?

Never    Sometimes    Most

1. Love Endures
2. Love Gives
3. Love is Kind
4. Love is Gentle
5. Love is not Jealous
6. Love is not selfish
7. Love is not Prideful

What is your score? Never=0; Sometimes=1; Most=2

Love gives without a hidden motive or agenda.
Love holds no grudges.
Love sees the best versus seeking the worst.
Benefits of Marriage

1. Allows the beauty of both individuals to blossom and come forth.
2. Blending two backgrounds together to be one in purpose, but yet separate in personal achievements.
3. Living together with another person, knowing all their faults, fears and shortcoming, yet never judging.
4. Reproducing society through children.
5. Having a mate to go through the changes of life (age, body and health) with another person that cares for you.
Yes We Can

To have a “SUCCESSFUL” marriage one must:

1. Be committed to a permanent change.
2. Be honest with yourself.
3. Be humble and consider your own ways.
4. Be a listener and a communicator.
5. Be able to seek ways to celebrate mate.
6. Be able to forgive.
7. Be able to endure all the seasons (fall, winter, spring and summer).
8. Be able to enjoy one another and laugh.
Why Purchase This Book?

1. Over 45-50% of marriages will end in divorce
2. The percentage for Christian’s divorces is similar to the above.
3. There is a generation of one parent household.
4. The fabric of a strong society is a strong family.
5. The reader will find the causes of divorce and the challenges to overcome.
6. You know someone that will benefit from reading and applying the principals.
Additional Books

1. Where are the parents?
2. A Weapon Called Longsuffering (path to the blessing).
3. The Mature Church.
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