
Download Free GODLY PRE MARRIAGE COUNSELING MANUAL

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1U3JQL - LACEY SELAH

More than 25 percent of our marriages end in the tragedy of divorce, and over 72 percent of all teenage marriages terminate in the courtroom. A growing number of young people are so disillusioned with marriage that it is no longer even a desirable option for them. Preparing for Your Marriage prepares couples to enter into marriage with realistic expectations, developed roles, and with defined responsibilities and goals.

In previous books respected New York pastor and bestselling author Timothy Keller has looked at such diverse and topical subjects as the existence of God, our need to do justice, the meaning of Jesus'

life, and the human temptation to make idols - all through the twin lenses of a biblical framework and an engagement with contemporary culture. In this new book, co-authored with his wife, Kathy, he turns his attention to that most complex of matters: our need for love, and its expression in marriage. Beginning with the biblical narrative, and its pictures of marriage that span the original ideal to the broken to the redemptive, he looks at themes of friendship and commitment; the completion of men and women in each other; singleness, sex and divorce; and ministry and discipleship within the context of marriage. This is a profound and engaging work that will challenge and inspire people in all stages

of life - single, newlywed and married.

The letter of 1 Peter was written to persecuted Christians scattered throughout the Roman Empire. It was meant to both encourage and instruct them on how to live as pilgrims in a hostile society. This message is still relevant today. Christ declared that in the end times believers would be hated by all nations because of him (Matthew 24:9). With the continuing culture shift, animosity and persecution towards Christians is increasing at an alarming rate. Over four hundred Christians are martyred every day, and more saints have died for the faith in the last century than all the previous combined. The words of 1 Peter are a message of

hope, desperately needed to encourage and prepare the Church for what lies ahead. Let's journey through Peter's letter together with the aid of The Bible Teacher's Guide. Expositional, theological, and candidly practical! I highly recommend the Bible Teacher's Guide for anyone seeking to better understand or teach God's Word. Dr. Young-Gil Kim, Founding President of Handong Global University. This study could be used by pastors as an aid for sermon preparation, by small group leaders, or by any believer who wants to understand and apply God's Word personally. I can't imagine any student of Scripture not benefiting by this work. Steven J. Cole, Pastor, Flagstaff Christian Fellowship.

"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.

As you begin preparing for your big wedding day, this Marriage by GOD program is designed to assist you in preparing for a BIG MARRIAGE. Using the companion counselor's guide, a mature Christian couple can come beside you and mentor you through biblical principles and time-tested techniques for fulfilling God's great plan for marriage.

It can be tempting, for couples who are engaged, to focus on planning their wedding day and ignore preparations for the lifetime commitment that begins after the cake is cut. Now, with this revised and updated edition of Preparing for Marriage from FamilyLife, couples can do both! Created by one of America's leading marriage and family ministries, this dynamic program is designed to help Christian

couples lay the foundation for a strong, lasting and biblical marriage. Preparing for Marriage includes eight sessions of fun, romantic study that will help couples identify areas for growth in their relationship and start them off on the right foot before they walk down the aisle. Couples will learn how to discern God's will for their relationship, to handle finances and plans for the future, to clarify their roles and responsibilities, to develop a loving sexual relationship, to deal with family histories and past issues, and much more!

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 Tags: relationships, marriage, relationships 101, marriage counseling, christian marriage, relationship rescue,

love, healthy relationships Around fifty percent of marriages end in divorce and of those who stay married, a large number are unhappy. "Happily ever after" seems to be something only reserved for fairy tales. Even the disciples, when considering the difficulties of marriage, replied, "If this is the situation between a husband and wife, it is better not to marry" (Matt 19:10). Certainly, this is not what God had in mind when he created marriage (Gen 2:24). How are married couples supposed to experience the abundant life that God originally meant for them? In 1 Peter 3:1-7, Peter speaks to husbands and wives about the characteristics of a godly marriage and God's expectation for each in the union. Through this, we learn God's perfect plan for married couples. Let consider it together with the Bible Teacher's Guide: "Expositional, theological, and candidly practical! I highly recommend The Bible Teacher's Guide for anyone seeking to better understand or teach God's Word." -Dr. Young-Gil Kim, Founding President of Handong Global University "I can't imagine any student of Scripture not benefiting by this work." -Steven J.

Cole, Pastor, Flagstaff Christian Fellowship, Author of the Riches from the Word series

Building Foundations for a Godly Marriage can be used as an eight-week small group study on marriage, a pre-marital or marital counseling curriculum, or simply to help one have a deeper understanding of marriage. "Expositional, theological, and candidly practical! I highly recommend The Bible Teacher's Guide for anyone seeking to better understand or teach God's Word." -Dr. Young-Gil Kim, Founding President of Handong Global University "Greg Brown's The Bible Teacher's Guide is thorough, scholarly enough to explain the text, clear, and practical. He treats difficult verses fairly and with helpful explanations (unlike many commentaries that skip the explanation right where you want it!). This study could be used by pastors as an aid for sermon preparation, by small group leaders, or by any believer who wants to understand and apply God's Word personally. I can't imagine any student of Scripture not benefiting by this work." -Steven J. Cole, Pastor, Flagstaff Christian Fellowship, Author of the

Riches from the Word series

This pack of two (identical) books will help couples learn more about themselves and their future spouse and address potential problem areas before, rather than after, the wedding. This official United Methodist resource includes worksheets to be completed by each person, Scripture references about marriage, and interactive exercises. Ideal for clergy to present to couples to use during pre-wedding counseling sessions. A separate Pastor's Manual includes guidelines for mentoring couples. For use with couples of all ages, whether they are entering their first marriage or remarrying. In America, the average amount of money, time, and energy spent on a wedding are astronomical. While thousands of dollars are spent for the wedding day, little if any money, time, and energy are spent in preparation for the marriage itself. To Have & To Hold: Preparing for a Godly Marriage offers a different approach from "pre-marital counseling." It is more of a marriage education helping and equipping couples to build smart marriages and healthy families. The days prior to a wedding

can be busy and hectic. This Bible study book format maximizes the time couples have by focusing on important information in a simplified and condensed version. One of the biggest mistakes couples make is collecting great resources and then becoming overwhelmed by the amount of information gathered with little time to complete the reading. Oftentimes, those resources are put on the shelf for later, only to be pulled down when a crisis hits ... often too little, too late. This study may be used in a variety of ways including: For couples to do on their own as a pre-marriage study. For pastors or others to use in pre-marriage counseling with couples. For small groups where a leader has a group of young couples preparing to wed. For couples or small groups in the early years of marriage who did not receive pre-marriage preparation and counseling. Some of the weekly preparation is fun, creative, and light. It is a good escape from the wedding plans for a while helping couples find a balanced approach will help them gain insight during the fast-paced days. These weekly interactive prep activities will be focused on the specific topic

for the week. They will encourage couples to look at scripture passages, do biblical words studies, listen to podcasts, go to a romantic place, or do some other activity to creatively challenge their thinking. These assignments are not a major time commitment, but they are vital as a couple works through issues. God's purposes for marriage are much higher and greater than our own. In Genesis 2:18, God said, "It is not good for man to be alone," He created Eve as an answer to that aloneness. Even though Adam had a perfect relationship with God, a perfect environment, and had all the possessions he wanted, there was still a void of intimacy. Blending two individuals into oneness was the Divine goal. They were made to become suitable helpers, counterparts who could balance and back one another in every way. God ordained marriage to be an earthly picture of the relationship between Christ and the Church. Jesus Christ's love for the Church, according to Ephesians 5, is sacrificial and unconditional. He laid down His life to present the church, His bride, whole, and complete. Likewise, when a husband and wife love each other as

they do their own bodies, nurturing and caring for each other, they live out the beautiful picture of Christ's oneness with the Church. Features: Interactive questions and tools to guide discussion and make the study personal for couples Practical and simple to equip couples for marriage not only the wedding Tools and suggestions for pre-marital education and counsel Bible study book for couples (sold separately) is included in the Leader Guide for Pastors, church staff, small group leaders, or facilitators Benefits: Understand God's Biblical foundation and purpose for marriage in order to establish a foundation that provides stability and oneness in the marital relationship. Following God's principles leads to oneness and freedom in the roles and responsibilities of the husband and wife. Help couples understand and follow God's stewardship principles as they work to experience financial freedom. Challenge the thinking of couples regarding needs, intimacy, and oneness in marriage Encourage and challenge each partner to individually keep Christ as the first priority as well as to grow together in spiritual oneness as a couple Equip

couples with tools to learn the necessary skills to effectively communicate through expressing oneself, listening, and managing conflict. Create healthy expectations for marriage and set a course of action for the future. Join Byron and Carla Weathersbee in this eight-session study *To Have & To Hold: Preparing for a Godly Marriage* as they explore and focus on the keys to a healthy marriage.

God intends for marriage to be one of the most satisfying relationships you will ever experience. Like our relationship with Christ, your relationship with your spouse should be a source of joy, peace, life, and love. But many marriages miss God's plan. The facts are that only about half the couples who go to the altar remain married -- and many of those who do not divorce find themselves in frustrating relationships full of pain and conflict. *Maximizing Your Marriage* is an interactive mentoring course for couples based on solid biblical principles about God's design for marriage. Ten weekly sessions provide plenty of tools that get couples headed in the right direction to experience and enjoy all God wants for them. And the course con-

cludes with an overnight retreat which offers couples the opportunity to renew their vows. Maximizing Your Marriage is an adventure that will bring refreshment and encouragement to any marriage. It's a great investment for a healthy relationship that reflects Jesus Christ. Sessions include: * Mutual Submission To Christ * The Wonder Of God's Oneness * A Promise To Be Kept * Expectations vs. Godly Assignments * Stop -- Talk -- and Listen, Listen, Listen * In Pursuit Of Understanding * Finding A Firm Financial Foundation * The Reward Of Raising Children * Intimacy In Every Way * Fueling The Flames Of Your Marriage * The Getaway Daryl G. Donovan is currently the senior pastor of Sanibel Community Church in Sanibel, Florida. He has served in pastoral ministry for nearly three decades and been extensively involved in premarital and marriage counseling. Donovan received his D.Min. degree from San Francisco Theological Seminary. Other books by Donovan include Able To Stand, Men Mentoring Men, Men Mentoring Men Again, The Inheritance, and Mentoring For Marriage.

The Pre-Marriage Counselling Handbook with Master Outlines was written specifically for the African context on how to build a successful marriage. Covering topics such as: Getting to know your spouse Communication skills and conflict resolution Marriage vows What the Bible says about sex In-law relationships Financial home management Preparing a godly home for children Building a biblical foundation Designed as a seminar-in-a-book, A Pre-Marriage Counselling Handbook equips pastors and counselors to teach biblical premarriage classes and seminars. Sold as a two-volume set with hand-out masters allows teacher to copy class worksheets.

The Pastor's Manual is a marriage preparation and ministry resource for pastors and other church leaders for pre-marital counseling and for comprehensive marriage ministries including guidelines for training mentor couples, working with couples in groups, and relationship education for all ages. See item number 9781426739460 for the couples manual! Includes everything you need to have a comprehensive marriage ministry: The Ministry of Marriage Prepa-

ration The Pastor's Role (expectations and perceptions; coaching and problem solving; experiences and attitudes) Theological Perspectives (personal responsibility and christian community; God's purposes for marriage ≥ divorce and remarriage ≥ marriage as vocation and covenant) Basic Goals for Marriage Preparation Ministries (religion, money, and sex; communication skills) Working with Couples First Session (wedding details, assessing the couple's preparation for marriage) Sessions with Individuals (premarital questionnaire responses, surfacing potential disagreements) Additional Sessions (finalizing wedding plans) Nurturing Marital Growth After the Wedding Mentor Couples (selecting and recruiting mentor couples; leadership team; training mentor couples) Marriage Preparation in Groups Comprehensive Marriage Ministries (relationship education for children, youth, and young adults; enrichment opportunities for married couples; support for couples in crisis) An extensive list of "Additional Resources" includes organizations and other marriage ministry programs that may be readily available and can be incorporated into

local church and community ministries. Updates for these "Additional Resources," a "Directory of United Methodist Marriage Ministry" leaders and consultants, a "Training Model" for use of GLCM, and other helps are available at

www.marriagelovepower.net.

A comprehensive contemporary resource for planning and conducting Christian marriage services and providing pastoral care for couples before and after the wedding. Includes sample wedding services from mainline denominations and suggestions for designing personalized services, selecting music, and developing church policy statements. Christian Premarital Counseling for counselors. The question is, "How does one conduct premarital counseling?" Many have not received any training in this area. I faced this same problem. As a pastor, I had to figure out how to conduct premarital counseling. The benefits were plainly evident. Session by session, couple by couple, I finally figured out a plan. I have since then enhanced it a bit and made it available to others. Everything one needs is here including handouts and forms with

many downloads to enhance use in our internet age. Purpose: To aid pastors, elders and other church leaders involved in premarital counseling to challenge and prepare engaged couples to have good and godly marriages.

Nicky and Sila Lee present the five sessions which make up The Pre-Marriage Course. Their talks are interspersed with thoughts from couples who have taken the course, as well as street interviews and marriage insights from around the world.

The Christian Counselor's Manual is a companion and sequel to Dr. Jay Adams' influential *Competent to Counsel*, which first laid out a vision of "nouthetic" counseling—a strictly biblical approach to behavioral counseling and therapy. This practical guide takes the approach of nouthetic counseling introduced in the earlier volume and applies it to a wide range of issues, topics, and techniques in counseling, including: Who is qualified to be a counselor? How can counselees change? How does the Holy Spirit work? What role does hope play in therapy? What is the function of language in a counseling ses-

sion? How do we ask the right questions? What often lies behind depression? How do we deal with anger? What is schizophrenia? These and hundreds more questions are answered and explained from a biblical perspective in this comprehensive resource for the Christian counselor. A full set of indexes, a detailed table of contents, and a full complement of diagrams and forms make this an outstanding reference book for and Christian counselor.

The decision to marry a certain person is one of the most important you'll ever make. It's vital to go into that marriage informed and prepared! Preparing for Marriage God's Way is a marriage counseling resource that uses thoughtful self-examination to reveal the personalities, background, and expectations that you and your partner are bringing to your union. Through rigorous Bible study, you will learn about God's expectations for marriage and be equipped with his solutions for dealing with typical marriage conflicts. Three follow-up lessons after your marriage help you to reflect on all that's happened after you said, "I do."

"Counselors unanimously

find that marriage and family problems outnumber all other counseling problems combined. For that reason alone, counselors should want to learn all they can about marriage counseling." -Jay Adams This book will help counselors understand and deal with the typical problems that arise in a marriage. The approach is to offer not merely solutions, but biblical solutions. Chapter by chapter, each problem that is brought into focus is addressed by Scripture, and a solution arising from Scripture is developed. Unless one understands what a biblical marriage is supposed to be, it is difficult to solve marriage problems. For that reason, Dr. Adams spends the first few chapters developing a biblical model. Then he treats many of the specific kinds of problems that typically arise: life patterns, priorities, children, sex roles, in-laws, and so forth. This is a book that belongs on every pastor's and every counselor's shelf.

Jim Burns and Doug Fields wish you the very best for your wedding, but sadly, they won't be able to make it. What they are here for is your marriage. Jim and Doug have seen it

all. They have worked with many couples and have studied extensively to uncover the essential elements for making marriages thrive. This book is their early wedding gift to you: a comprehensive, easy-to-navigate road map for beginning your union. Filled with premium fuel for the journey—including meaningful exercises, hard truths, and conversations starters—this book will nourish and guide your relationship for the long haul.

Tying the Knot by Rob Green offers soon-to-be-married couples a practical vision of Christ-centered marriage that is realistic, hopeful, and actionable. With homework to help any counselor or couple put crucial lessons into practice, Tying the Knot is a highly relevant premarital counseling book. This eight-session study guides couples through issues like conflict, expectations, communication, finances, and intimacy, showing how each can be successfully resolved with Christ at the center of the marriage. Knowing the stresses and needs of a couple in their season of engagement, Green has helpfully designed the study to require a manageable (and healthy) 60 minutes of at-home work per

session, with questions and exercises to build communication and intimacy at the end of each chapter. Tying the Knot also includes an appendix for mentors, making it easy for a married couple, lay leader, or counselor to lead an engaged couple through the book. Field-tested and recommended by multiple counselors in a thriving counseling practice, Tying the Knot has already guided many couples into a stronger and more joyful union. Let this eight-week premarital study reorient your life and marriage around Christ, so you both will experience all the blessings of marriage as God designed it.

Marriage is one of the most important decisions you will ever make in your life. This is a book aimed at helping the young person who is embarking upon the grand adventure of finding a life partner (although married couples will also find much of benefit in it). As with most things in life, there is a right way to go about this and a wrong way. But with the stakes so high, choosing the right person for the right reasons and establishing a solid and successful foundation for the relationship are crucial. Couples are encour-

aged to read this book together. It will take them through the process of preparing oneself for marriage, finding a life partner, working out whether he or she is the right one, enjoying an effective engagement period, and developing a sound and profound understanding of what marriage is all about, as a firm foundation for the life-long adventure of marriage. Along the way, a number of issues are discussed, including: how to know that a decision is a good one; the beautiful meaning and symbolism of the ancient Orthodox rites of Betrothal and Marriage; difficult issues such as gender roles, abuse, intimacy, sexuality, contraception, and abortion; how couples can learn to understand one another and meet one another's needs; and the perilous danger and life-transforming beauty that is the mystery of marriage in the Orthodox Christian Faith. The approach taken is firmly based on both ancient Orthodox Christian principles and modern psychological principles, and is holistic and contemporary, seamlessly weaving together ancient wisdom and modern psychology into a single approach.

Why Are Foxes on the Cover of this Premartial

Guide? Because every marriage has "foxes" lurking inside it! We all have idols and selfish appetites—and, like the foxes in Solomon's vineyard, they can cause untold destruction and heartache. In fact, how seriously a couple takes their own foxes will influence whether their marriage blooms and glorifies God, or is a shallow and pale imitation of the real thing. In this workbook for both individuals and groups, biblical counselor John Henderson stimulates meaningful conversation and prayer between engaged couples. The book's interactive format provides couples with a foundation for understanding what marriage is really about, becoming a godly husband or wife, and understanding conflict and resolving it biblically. Sit down together, ask a married couple to come alongside you, and get ready to chase the foxes out of your relationship. Book jacket.

"I am a well-loved wife." Is this something your wife would say? Here's your guide to making those words a reality in your marriage. What do women want? This question has stumped the greatest male minds for

centuries. Of course, if you're married, a much better question is, "What does your wife want?" As Darrin and Amie Patrick reveal in this profoundly practical and transformational book, God designed your wife to want—to need—to be loved. And that design is an invitation for you to love her deeply, intentionally and passionately. Practicing ten powerful actions—including listening, pursuing, and serving—will transform you into your wife's lifelong champion and have her nominating you for the Husband Hall of Fame. *The Dude's Guide to Marriage* is for guys who want to grow, who want clear steps to improving their marriage. It's for men who want a marriage that thrives rather than just survives. Grab this guide, and get ready to be a better husband by becoming a better man.

Every couple wants and needs their marriage to begin on a strong foundation. An excellent pre-marriage counseling program with their chosen pastor helps to establish that foundation by introducing the couple to issues they may not have considered, helps them to clarify their individual expectations and concerns, resolve any conflicts, and prepare for

a lifetime of love, happiness, and mutual support with their chosen partner. A firm understanding of Christian faith in marriage grounds all of this.

In any endeavor, dreams and goals not backed by concrete plans and preparations can result in failure. And marriage is no exception, claims H. Norman Wright. In fact, without solid planning and forethought by engaged couples, we will surely see a continuation of the startling divorce rate among Christians and non-Christians alike. On the other hand, thorough premarital counseling and preparation can result in lifelong marriages that are fulfilling and God honoring. That's where the church comes in. More and more churches are realizing that their responsibility lies not only in pronouncing men and women 'husband and wife,' but also in making sure the proper foundation is laid so that marriages have a better chance of standing strong under pressure. Since its introduction in 1977 as *Premarital Counseling*, this book has been used by literally thousands of churches throughout the country as both a guide and reference tool. Now Dr. Wright has added new material

to cover some perplexing issues that have come into prominence only recently. Among those special concerns are: Interracial marriages Second marriages Marriages of persons from dysfunctional families Writing for both pastors and other premarital counselors, H. Norman Wright sets you at ease about the counseling process, even if you've had only limited counseling experience. As the author of the popular *Before You Say I Do* and numerous other books on marriage, H. Norman Wright documents in *The Premarital Counseling Handbook* methods that have proved successful. These will help insure that the marriages performed in your church will resist the pressures that are destroying today's married couples.

Christian counselors have long needed a manual they could give couples before marriage counseling so they would be guided to think through all the important issues of marriage. This manual abundantly fulfills that need.

Offers a biblical perspective on the explosive and growing social phenomena of couples moving in together instead of marrying - a common trend even among Christian cou-

ples. Full of biblical, practical, and competent help for those who minister to and counsel unwed couples.

'Healing Relationships: A Christian's Manual for Lay Counseling' is designed to equip you, the layperson, to minister to those who are hurting. Stephan Grunlan and Daniel Lambrides, both skilled counselors, explain how you can allow Christ's love to bring about a healing relationship. Sunday school teachers, youth workers, elders - every church member should have some training in counseling skills so they can turn their interpersonal relationships into healing relationships. In 13 informative chapters, 'Healing Relationships' presents clear counseling procedures and illustrates a variety of counseling situations for Sunday school discussion, Bible study, or personal application. For those who wish to use the book as a group study, a Leader's Guide is also available.

OVER ONE MILLION COPIES SOLD! With this updated edition of their award-winning book, Drs. Les and Leslie Parrott help you launch lifelong love like never before. This is more than a book--it's an experience, especially when you use the his/her

workbooks filled with more than 40 fun exercises. Get ready for deeper intimacy with the best friend you'll ever have. *Saving Your Marriage Before It Starts*, which has been translated into more than 15 languages, is the most widely used marriage prep tool in the world. Why? Because it will help you . . . Uncover the misbeliefs of marriage Learn to communicate with instant understanding Discover the secret to resolving conflict Master the skills of money management Get your sex life off to a great start A compelling video, featuring real-life couples, is available, and with this updated edition, Les and Leslie unveil the game-changing SYMBIS Assessment. Now you can discover how to leverage your personalities for a love that lasts a lifetime. Make your marriage everything it is meant to be. Save your marriage--before (and after) it starts. Pastors and counselors regularly minister to people whose marriages or families are in crisis. Tempers run high and feelings are brought low when a marriage is hurting or a family is in disarray. Pastors and counselors need practical, biblical help in order to connect their theological training to the re-

ality of modern messy relationships. These how-to training manuals provide relevant, user-friendly equipping for pastors, counselors, lay leaders, educators, and students, enabling them to competently and compassionately relate God's Word to marriage and family life.

Preparing Couples for Marriage by Les C. Wicker is a wedding scripture text and prayer book entailing premarriage counseling and marriage counseling topics along with the following topics: - marriage counseling - Christian marriage counseling - premarriage counseling - premarriage counseling online books - premarriage counseling - marriage counseling Christian - Christian counseling free marriage -wedding preparation checklist - wedding scripture - wedding scripture and prayer - wedding scripture texts - wedding scripture readings - wedding bible scripture

Build a Christ-Centered Love that Lasts At a time when more people are delaying marriage or writing it off altogether, couples ready to walk the aisle will appreciate a frank and trusted resource to help them start marriage on the right foot. This interactive Christian guide will

help you explore your relationship in depth and will provide new insight into your partner and how the two of you relate to one another establish your wants and needs as individuals and a couple before your marriage begins lay the groundwork for biblical and honest conversation for a stronger, healthier marriage reveal how life events and family background can influence decision making in finances, family, education, faith and career engage you in activities that lead to thought-provoking discussion that address your past experiences and current expectations Engaging and easy-to-use, *Before You Say "I Do"* is full of tried-and-true wisdom to help you plan for your future and build a lasting relationship with the one you love.

Are You Planning a Wedding or Preparing for a Marriage? Like most engaged couples, you're researching venues, trying on dresses and picking out tuxedos or suits, tasting sample dishes, dreaming of honeymoon destinations, and doing everything to ensure your wedding day is the event of a lifetime. But as more seasoned couples will tell you, there's more to a marriage than a wedding.

A lot more. How do you build a marriage that you've dreamed of? Dr. Greg Smalley, vice president of marriage at Focus on the Family, and his wife, Erin, along with 14 marriage experts, serve as your marriage guides as you prepare for life beyond the wedding day. From how to handle those everyday conflicts to how to better connect on a spir-

itual level, they'll show you how to get ready for a lifetime of commitment. When the flowers have faded and the last morsel of cake has been eaten, you'll stand with your new spouse, ready to face life together. Equip yourself for a marriage that lasts by learning: How to leave your parents (while still honoring them) and

cleave to your spouse
 Why spiritual intimacy is key to a lasting relationship
 Why the language of love is communication (and how to build it)
 How to manage conflict in a healthy, God-honoring way
 Why sexual intimacy in your marriage will be the gift that keeps on giving
 Invest in a marriage that will last for decades.
 Are you ready?