

A House Divided Cannot Stand

Marriage is a team relationship; husbands and wives must work together to meet the challenges of life they will face. Jesus brings this point out in Mark 3:25, when He *says that if a house is divided against itself, that house cannot stand*. So it is with the marriage relationship, the *house* a couple builds together. If husband and wife cannot work together moving in the same direction, eventually their home and marriage will fall. Divorce is the ultimate example of this principle as children are torn between two sets of values and really, two worlds. Joshua said *as for me and my house, we will follow the Lord*. When a couple works together as a team heading in the same direction, their marriage relationship will grow and their children will tend to grow up healthy with mature character.

A marriage is no better than its purpose. God's purposes must be at the core of a person individually and as a couple. Scripture says that above all things people are to love the Lord their God with all their heart, soul and mind. When Christians are intent on that purpose, they can begin searching out God's specific purpose for their lives. When God is first in your life and all things are tested according to His will, your ways will be His ways. Perhaps today, more than ever, individuals and families need a sense of direction and purpose, a guiding structure in their life around which they can make decisions, and set goals to work toward. Every day life brings many pressing decisions to be made: where to put time, attention, energy and money. With an established vision, mission and goals, one can ask, "Will this option move us toward accomplishing our mission or hinder it?" Depending on that answer, they can make a good decision that will fit the direction they are going.

The Marriage Minute

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