

TAKING ACTION

When a marriage is going “south,” one of the worst things you can do is...nothing. People in panic often fear making the wrong move but sometimes “no move” is the *worst* move. Not doing anything will get you just what you’ve got.

Because of God’s Spirit within us, we are sometimes called to bold action. The “safe” path is sometimes a slow drift toward destruction. One of my favorite Christian philosophers, Elton Trueblood, put it so well:

“The person who never goes out on a limb will never, it is true, have the limb cut off while he is on it, but neither will he reach the best fruit. The best fruit which human life offers seems to come only within the reach of those who face life boldly . . . with no excessive concern over possible failure and personal danger. The good life is always the gambler’s choice, and comes to those who take sides. Neutrality is seldom a virtue.” . . .

The Spiritual Platform to Influence Your Spouse

Let’s apply some simple theology here. Who does the Bible say is your refuge – God or your husband? Deuteronomy 33:27 provides the answer: “The eternal God is your refuge, and underneath are the everlasting arms.”

In whom does your hope lie? Your husband’s continuing affection? First Peter 1:21 says, “Your faith and hope are in God.”

Where will you find your security? You and your husband’s ability to earn a living and your husband’s commitment to stay married to you? Philippians 4:19 answers, “My God will meet all your needs according to his glorious riches in Christ Jesus.”

– by Gary Thomas, find the full story at www.GaryThomas.com/Taking-Action

This article is taken from Gary Thomas’ newly released book: *Loving Him Well: Practical Advice for Influencing Your Husband*



RESOURCES FOR COUPLES

Marriage is one life’s most rewarding relationships.

It is a challenge to build a strong, God-honoring relationship. Whether you are 18 or 80, dating, engaged, or married, there is a class or seminar for the two of you.

Marriage God’s Way Conference Enjoy a wonderful weekend away (perfect Mother’s Day gift!) that will change your marriage forever! Join senior pastor, author, and conference speaker, Scott LaPierre to learn the biblical recipe for a healthy, joyful, Christ-centered relationship! May 11-12 at Questions? Ask scott@scottlapierre.org or (360) 977-2877. Register at www.groupon.com/deals/marriage-gods-way

Marriage Matters Retreat will utilize Prepare/Enrich, a customized online assessment tool that identifies a couple’s strength and growth areas. As a group we will discuss the main components of each topic, then each individual couple will have time on their own to walk through their own assessment and workbook. Trained facilitators will answer your questions. Are you engaged, or married? This retreat is for you. May 18-19 at Estacada First Baptist Church. Questions? Ask Scott at (503) 630-5325. Register at www.estacadafirstbaptistchurch.org

Marriage Encounter A weekend that can help married couples turn a good (or even ho-hum or boring) marriage into a GREAT marriage! Rediscover the spark that was there on your wedding day! Rediscover the best friend you had when you were first married! May 25-27 in Beaverton, OR. For details contact John & LaVonne Doherty (503) 853-2758

7th Annual Date Night Comedy Delightful family fun starring Kristin & Danny Adams “Laughter Is Good Medicine”, with Jim & Carol Shores “Acts of Renewal”. Saturday, July 28 at Rolling Hills Community Church. Details and tickets at www.DateNightPDX.org

May 2018

Every Marriage Matters

Helping Marriages Become All God Intended

Check out additional resources at www.EveryMarriageMatters.org