

7 Christian Marriage Myths (Part 2)

By America's Family Coaches in Thriving Marriages email Feb. 20, 2023

Here's the rest of the list from last week. If you missed last week ask Pastor Dave for a copy.

Christian Marriage Myth #4: We need to keep our marital problems to ourselves.

We think that everyone else has a happy, perfect marriage, and so you don't confess or share your problems with anyone who can help. The truth is, God created us as social beings to live in community where we can help each other. By keeping quiet, you hinder the healing that could have come from sharing with other people who have faced what you're facing. This type of sharing needs to come in ways that are not hurtful to each other.

Christian Marriage Myth #5: Christian couples don't fight.

Many Christian couples think that "peace-making" means not fighting, so they deny negative feelings. They let things build until they explode over something trivial. **It's okay to fight.** In the Bible it says, "Don't sin by letting anger control you.' Don't let the sun go down while you are still angry, for anger gives a foothold to the devil" (Eph.4:26-27). We challenge you & your mate to bring up whatever has been bothering you within twenty-four hours. You'll be amazed how your mate may respond. Just saying, "I feel angry," will defuse feelings. Humble yourself enough to apologize and let it go.

Christian Marriage Myth #6: I need to pray for God to change my spouse.

Many people spend much time in prayer begging God to change their spouses. They think that they'd be happy *if only* their spouses were different. Therefore, many couples find that as much as they pray, they don't see any significant change in their spouses. The truth is: God wants to change *you* first.

Christian Marriage Myth #7: The husband should be stronger in his faith than the wife.

We each grow toward Christ in our own way and time. Many wives become critical of their husbands' lack of spiritual leadership, which causes them to push and their husbands to retreat. Remember: You are not responsible for your mate's spiritual life. Trust God to work in them—that's when your mate will feel God calling him or her to get serious about his relationship with Christ. It takes time, but only God can make a husband the strong loving leader his wife wants. *Also, refer to # 6 and be sure God isn't trying to change you as well.*