

HOW To Have A

Grace Filled Marriage

By Dr. Steve McVey

Having counseled with hundreds of couples about their marriage relationships for almost three decades, I have seen a common denominator in every relationship where there is conflict and frustration. It is a lack of grace. Grace is not simply the glue that holds a marriage together. It is more like the rich flavor of a gourmet meal. It is the musical notes in a beautiful symphony arrangement. It is the warmth of the sun on an awesome spring morning.

Marriage isn't about survival. The name of the game isn't to avoid divorce court, but to enjoy an ever deepening romance for a lifetime. Since marriage was designed and set in place by God (See

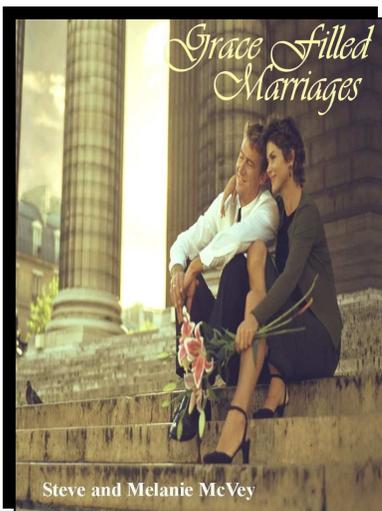
Genesis 2:18-24), He is the only one who can cause a marriage to be a romance "made in heaven." We can try to do it on our own, but it will be like trying to eat food with no salt or listen to music with no tune. It's much more enjoyable if our marriage is arranged His way. What are some elements of a grace filled marriage?

1. Our marriage must be grounded in the Person of grace.

The Bible says that unless the Lord builds our home, it is a vain attempt for us to try to build it. (See Psalm 127:1) Have you committed your

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To learn more...



It is our Father's plan that our marriages be a picture of heaven on earth. Sadly, that is often not the case, even among those who are Christians. This two part teaching by Steve and Melanie McVey will help you understand how our own fleshly techniques short circuit the joy of marriage and all our Father intends for us to experience and will show you what it means to allow Christ to express His life in your relationship.

Whether you are struggling in your marriage or simply want to see your relationship strengthened, *Grace Filled Marriages* will encourage you. Listen to this teaching and discover how grace walking in your marriage can help you to experience the joy of heaven in your home.



marriage into the hands of God? He is the One who created the institution of marriage and must be the source of any lasting, loving relationship. It might be a good idea to pray together as a couple and formally give your marriage to Him, trusting Him to work in your relationship together.

2. A grace-filled marriage consists of grace-filled partners. The underlying essence of grace is one of undeserved favor. Most marriage problems arise when people zero in on their mate's faults. Acting in grace toward your mate means that you stop trying to change him/her and simply love unconditionally. Pray and ask God to change *you* and you may be surprised to see what He will do in your mate's life without your involvement.

3. A grace-filled marriage is one in which partners put their mate's needs first. The Bible says that "love never fails." (See 1 Corinthians 13:8) What would happen in your marriage if you began to act in ways that demonstrated that your desire is to please your mate whatever the cost to you? Ask Jesus Christ to serve your mate through you. Then wait patiently for the change to come. It will come because love *never* fails.

Marriage is not always an easy relationship, but it is one which can offer the greatest source of fulfillment of any human relationship in this world. Ask God to enable you to lay down your own expectations and to trust Him to grow your marriage into the kind He wants it to become. He alone can bring about the growth every marriage needs.



Hi, I'm Steve McVey, President of Grace Walk Ministries, and we are thrilled that you have let us send you these proven, biblical principles that will help you understand who you are in Christ.

Grace Walk is a teaching and training ministry which exists for the purpose of sharing the life of Jesus Christ with others. Our mission is to help Christians discover the freedom of their new life in Christ. To this end, we use conferences, mission trips, Bible studies, books, newsletters, CD and DVD teachings and my Sunday Preaching message broadcast through our website each week.

Again, thank you so much for this opportunity to serve you. There's lots more in store at our web site. Be sure to visit us there at www.gracewalk.org. We hope you'll drop by for a visit and that you'll tell a friend about us.

In Him,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Steve McVey".



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