

Rescue me!

1. according to God's plan

"...God made them and"

2. the harbour

"...a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife."

3. to your destination

The purpose of life, and marriage:

"Do not be unequally yoked with unbelievers." 2 Corinthians 6:14

4. difficulties

Keep your life in

Stay in your relationship

"anyone who divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery"

. danger

. things may become big problems

. the unexpected

Fulfil purpose, not someone else's

I am surrounded by others to

5. boat lasts forever

"At the resurrection, people will neither marry nor be given in marriage; they will be like the angels in Heaven." Matthew 22:30

"Blessed are those called to the marriage supper of the Lamb." Rev.19:9

6. go down with your ship

When difficulties come, face them

The marriage box

Most people get married believing a myth that marriage is a beautiful box full of all the things they have longed for: companionship, intimacy, friendship, etc.

The truth is, at the start, marriage is an empty box. You must put something in, before you can take anything out. There is no love in marriage. Love is in people. And people put love into marriage. There is no romance in marriage. You have to infuse it into your marriage.

A couple must learn the art, and form the habit, of giving, loving, serving, praising, thanking, keeping the box full. If you take out more than you put it, the box will soon be empty.

Someone I loved once gave me a box full of darkness.

It took me years to understand that this too, was a gift.

My Prayer Points for this week

For personal reflection, or group discussion

1. What makes marriage sometimes easier, and sometimes more difficult, than other relationships?
2. Read Mark 10:6-9, and identify the dual principles of "separation" and "union". Why do you think God's plan has always included both for a healthy marriage? How can you separate from your family of origin but still maintain a positive relationship with them?
3. Holiness is the origin and continuance of the perfection of every one of God's attributes. Why do you think "Holy Holy Holy" is the song sung by the angels in Heaven? What are 3 ways I can echo God's holiness in my own life?
4. What advice would you give to a young couple about the best 3 ways to overcome the difficulties of married life?