



As1 Marriage & Family

FROM THE DESK OF ELDER TERRELL



Whoso findeth a wife findeth a good thing, and obtaineth favour of the Lord.

Proverbs 18:22

Is the favor of the Lord only released to a man who finds a wife? Ans. No. Does the Lord favor single men? Ans. Yes. Then why is favor mentioned in this scripture if everyman can have it? Ans. The favor mentioned in this scripture is for his ability to be understanding, loving, and patient; to provide, sacrifice and protect his wife. It's above and beyond the favor of the single man. God will release more favor to the man that vows to do all of the above-mentioned and more for his wife in accordance with biblical principles and by the leading of the Spirit of God. Unconditional love, protection, provision, sacrifice, mercy and grace are attributes or character traits of God Himself and are a product of Divine order. When a saved man takes on a wife his commitment to her should be similar to Christ's commitment to His bride, the church. When a man's life begins to resemble or mirror the responsibilities found in Divine order he finds a rhythm with God and favor is released.

“Love is Patient Kind.....It Keeps no Record of Wrong”



BUSINESS AND POWER

MARRIED AND YOUNG

Jamal and Natasha Miller are the founders of Marriedandyoung.com a site dedicated to helping dating, engaged, courting and newly married couples to have a solid foundation for marriage.

“It is our mission to see Married and Young increase the marriage rate and decrease the divorce rate in the World by helping singles, courting, engaged, and newly married couples establish a solid foundation for a successful Godly marriage”!

Married and Young is reaching over 30,000 singles and couples monthly with the message of having a thriving Christ Centered marriage.

Jamal authored an Amazon Hot New Release, 25 Ways to Prepare for Marriage Other than Dating and together they wrote Our Time with God: A 42 Day Devotional for Couples. Their passion to see more Godly marriages is truly changing the World.

Jamal and Natasha are the proud parents of Harvest Ann & Melodie Grace Miller. They also serve as the young adult pastors at All Nations Worship Assembly.

To learn more about the Millers and their mission visit <http://marriedandyoung.com/>

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COUPLE OF THE MONTH

The Cottons

Introducing Josh and Bianca Cotton!

Freshly married since 3/26/2017

Legacy Keepers: Zenani Cotton, 9 months old girl; Jalin Cotton 12 year old boy

See their story on page 3

DATE NIGHT



Date nights are very important because

In a world where both you and your spouse can become busy with work, kids and other everyday hustle and bustle, it's a way to maintain, rejuvenate, revitalize the relationship God has blessed you with and not become the coming and going couple.

Sometimes our date nights are planned and we know what day and where we are going. But often times we enjoy the spontaneous dates when we decide just to go out and kick it after work. One of our favorite midweek dates is summer time late evening around 9:00 pm we ride downtown enjoying Buckingham fountain and a nice walk on the lake front. Whether its dinner and a movie, bowling, a concert or just walking in the park, we are focused on each other and sharing with each other during this quality time. We always make it priority to communicate where we are mentally as individuals and what our vision and goals are for our marriage.

Did we mention QUALITY TIME... yes it's so important that you always find time to connect with your spouse and they leave the encounter of your choosing feeling valued and validated by you. So at the end of the night you have 2 happy people.

Recently we went on date with other couples, and what would seem to be just an outing was actually a date night with an assignment. As we prepared to hang out at the gun range the Holy Spirit began to drop some insight on this date night...

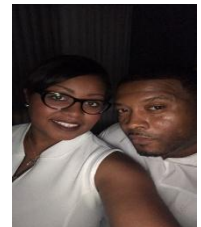
Bang Bang Night...

That night as couples our fellowship required a few things to be highlighted personally within in our relationships.

1. Compromise- in some way, one spouse or both will be put in a compromising situation, whether it be compromising to attend and do something your spouse likes. Or just participating at all.
2. Fear - some had a fear with firearms but were able to overcome with support from their spouse.
3. Patience - some spouses had never handle nor fired a fire arm and this night definitely required everyone to be patient with each other as we all took turns participating to the best of our ability.
4. Communication- we had to talk from the beginning of the experience thru the last shot. I watched each couple work together to pick their fire arm and tools necessary to make this experience fun but safe.
5. Trust - this one is just that simple this is the person you are married to and we have to make a decision to be okay with things they plan or decide for our family especially when they are submitted to Gods Leading.

Lastly Hebrews 10:25 say "not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near."

Some of your spouse's date night desires or activities may be unfamiliar to you and may not be the thing you want to do. It's okay to try new things, but both spouses have to be committed to the process of dating and engaging with one another. Keep your bond tight and don't give the enemy any room to slip in.



Charlie and Bethany Banks.

Ideas for Date Night

South Side Salsa (and Lessons)

Free every 3rd Wednesday
7-11pm @ The Promontory
5311 S. Lake Park Ave, Chicago, IL

Robot Building Date Night

Dates throughout November

Put an extra spark in your relationship at this couples' robot building date night 3226 N Sheffield Ave, Chicago

(212)858-9559

Take a walk through Garfield Conservatory

300 N. Central Park, IL, Chicago, IL

Hours: Thursday - Tuesday, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. |

Wednesday, 9 a.m. - 8 p.m.

Phone: 312-746-5100

PARENTING WITH PURPOSE

We Are Free

My husband and I were both raised in the same church from birth until our late 20's. While we are grateful for a biblical foundation and for growing up in homes where Christ was the cornerstone, there was so much we didn't get. We were taught the spirit of religion but not holiness.

Having been blessed with three amazing daughters we are so grateful to truly know the meaning of "abundant life". We have literally seen generational curses removed, things that the enemy had already began have now been uprooted. Deliverance has meant so much to us! It has blessed our marriage and changed our parenting approach. Now that the junk has been removed we now experience each other the way God made us to be. **We aren't perfect but thank God we are free!**

Of course we have a balance in all things, and seek Holy Spirit for our decisions, but we no longer care about "keeping up appearances". Our focus is not on what others think of us but our accountability is to God. We teach our girls "Do right when no one is looking, because God is always looking", and "When you disobey us you hurt the Father's heart".

The difference deliverance has made in our lives has been remarkable. We all know how to go to war, and our prayer life has gone to new levels. We are constantly asked by our girls "Is that demonic"? Although sometimes we laugh around this issue we stay on guard for our souls. It has meant sacrifice and inconvenience, we have had to move one daughter out of her gym class where Yoga was mandatory and talk to teachers about subject matter being taught for another, but it's all worth it! We are so grateful to be in a church home where deliverance is so important, and we can say we are not just healed, but we are whole.

Shawn & Radiant Montgomery



TIPS TO KEEP YOUR MARRIAGE FRESH

Most couples who have been married as long as we have (19+ years) will tell you, marriage is work! No one goes into a marriage with ALL the answers or knowing all the right things to say and do. If we did, we wouldn't need as much counseling as we do, there would probably be less divorce than there currently is, women wouldn't have so many headaches, men wouldn't be so sexually frustrated, and there would probably be a lot more babies running around the house! For many of you, you haven't been able to seize the opportunities to make your marriage hot and exciting again because you've been too busy just trying to keep it alive! I know, I've been there. So, how do you pull a marriage out of survival mode and recapture the joy of the courtship and the wedding day bliss? Many couples blindly stumble into the marriage graveyard and by the time they realize it, they've been there for quite some time. This graveyard goes by another name too...maybe you've heard of it... It's called the "comfort-zone"!

What is the "comfort-zone"?

The "comfort-zone" is the place where husbands and wives end up when communication has shut down! Husbands, just because your wives don't ask you to turn off the tv and come talk to them, it doesn't mean they don't want you to. Wives, just because your husbands don't ask you to wear lingerie some nights, it doesn't mean that they don't want you to. Maybe this is you, maybe it's not...the point I'm making is this, you should never be ok with not knowing! My wife would ask me repeatedly "Do we need to spice things up or are we good"? I would tell we were good because I didn't want her to feel as though she was doing something wrong. I didn't realize until sometime later that by not communicating to her what I wanted, that's exactly how I made her feel.



MARRIAGE MINISTRY EVENT: UNDEFINED: SEX & MARRIAGE

On Friday, September 22, 2017 the marriage team used an open forum format; specific questions/issues that were raised at the Black Love event hosted by our Apostles were used to guide the session; Undefined: Sex & Marriage and no questions were off limit!

Elder Nickey Bounds asked the couples to define what "defile" means; Elders Terrell and Nickey Bounds taught about maintaining intimacy with your spouse. Other topics covered: masturbation, pornography/lust - we have to flee from immorality (I Corinthians 6:15) the scriptures the Bounds' used were John 16:13, and John 21:25 - anything does not "go" just because you are married. Basically, some argue that if it is not in the bible specifically, they can do anything. We have to use biblical principles and the Holy Spirit (John 21:25) to guide us. Stop looking for reasons, excuses for what you 'can' do. They also reminded the couples that sex is a spiritual act, so we can't always just focus on the physicality of it. In Genesis 1, we were spirits first, then then became flesh. We must honor and value each other (spouses) (Hebrews 13:4, I Corinthians 7). The marriage team was very open and honest, which enabled the other couples to open and share their experiences and ask questions, the discussion seemed to really be a hot topic and many people requested to have this session again.

COUPLE OF THE MONTH

The Cotton's both believe that in order to successfully overcome the challenges they've faced in marriage that communication has been key! They ask each other lots of questions and then they don't just listen for answers but they listen with a heart to understand! At times, they just agree to "respectfully disagree" and keep it moving, no grudge holding!

Josh states "The things you do to get your spouse are the things you need to do to keep your spouse. Never let the love grow old!" This holds true for them because they continue to keep it fresh by dating often, and remembering to simply "laugh" together!

Bianca has had excellent examples of lasting covenants by observing both of their parents who are still married. She also says through much prayer and reading books she equips herself to make her marriage last forever. They both agree and believe this is a life long journey in which they're sharing their lives and it's their love for God at the core that keeps them united.

The couple didn't do "dating and pre-marital sex!" For Bianca this has made her submitting to Josh easy because she states, "It's easy to follow a man, who you know is submitted to God!"



TIPS TO KEEP YOUR MARRIAGE FRESH

ELDER TORIN & ROSIE

1. Stay out of the "comfort-zone"- make a list of all the things that you've always wanted to say to or ask of your spouse, set aside some conversation time and take turns going down the list. Start with the lighter things first (Hey, why do we always have to do it in the missionary position? or why don't you ever plan special date nights?)
2. Whatever the "Lady" wants! Men, once your spouse has made known what she would like to see more of from you, you've got to take it and go! If she says she wants love letters, then you got to step your pen game up! Whatever you have to do to make happy, it's worth it. The old saying is true you know...Happy wife, happy life!!
3. "Gifts and Surprises"- women, there's nothing wrong with surprising your man! We love food surprises, we love clothes surprises, and we love bedroom surprises! Keep him wondering "what will she think of next?"

If you're wondering why you don't see and scriptures in this article, it's because I left them out intentionally! The bible tells us to love our wives (Eph.5:25) and love our husbands (Titus 2:4) but it doesn't tell us how to specifically express that love. The creativity for that expression is given to us by God. In other words, God will not require a man to go by his wife flowers to prove that he loves her, but he will allow a man to behold the beauty of those flowers and be reminded of how beautiful and delicate his own "flower" is, which in turn motivates him to buy her flowers



MONEY MOVES w/ THE MCNEELY'S

What Do You Think?

People always ask us, how they can possibly begin the process of turning their financial situation around towards a positive direction. Usually, they're looking for strategies to save money, invest, or get out of debt. While that line of thinking may be logical on the surface, the truth of the matter is that financial freedom doesn't begin financial strategies.

It is impossible for real change to manifest in your bank account without first creating real change in your mindset. You have to really begin to self-assess your mindset when it comes to money. If you are not willing to make the hard choices in your financial thought processes, then you truly are not committed to financial freedom.

Romans 12:2 encourages us to be transformed by the renewing of our mind. This goes for financial transformation as well. Start to envision yourself as debt free. Start to think about what steps you need to make internally to position yourself to prosper. Once you start to think differently, you'll start to act differently. Once your new actions matches up with your new mindset, you'll begin to see new positive results in your financial situation.

Visit the McNeely's at: www.hisandhermoney.com



ALL IN THE FAMILY

BLENDING FAMILIES

Traditional families are very rare especially in the church, the majority of women or men have one or more children. Whether you are divorced, a widow or have multiple children before marriage there is hope for you! There is Godly man or woman that will love you and your child(ren) as their own.

There are many challenges you may face,

like drama from the other parent, how to discipline your children and setting boundaries.

We've seen it all but with God we've learn to love stronger and be wiser. If you are a single parent waiting or a new blended family, here are some tips that will help:

- 1.) Put your marriage first. It's the foundation of your family.
- 2.) Support your children's need to have a relationship with their other biological parent.
- 3.) Non-custodial parents remain a part of your children's lives.
- 4.) Never badmouth your biological parent to your children.
- 5.) Remember relationships between stepparents and stepchildren take time to blossom.
- 6.) Celebrations, birthdays and holidays call for flexibility and creativity.
- 7.) Discuss and clarify all money issues early, and preferably prior to being married.
- 8.) Adults agree on how to run the household and establish a united front.
- 9.) Build strong and clear communication with respect for one another.
- 10.) Face all feelings and issues fearlessly. Talk about them and let them grow the both of you closer.

Love,



Pastor's Keith & Tiffany Strong
Founder's Of Black & Blended

What's Going On Around Town

WTTW Community Cinema
I Am Not Your Negro
Saturday, 11-18-2017 2-4 pm
Chicago Cultural Center
Claudia Cassidy Theater
78 E. Washington St., Chicago, IL

Christkindlemarket
Chicago's Largest Outdoor
Market
Daily Plaza Loop
11-18-2017 – 12/24/17

The 40th Annual Art Van Turkey Trot
Benefits the Chicago Food Depository
Lincoln Park
Visit: <http://www.turkeytrotchicago.com>
To register
11-23-2017 @ 8 am.

GIVING THANKS BY SERVING

Before you park it at the family table with the fried turkey, jerk turkey, baked turkey, and all the jive turkeys why don't you consider doing something to demonstrate your thanks. Serving others who may be in need makes you appreciate all that you have. Below are just a few ideas you can do to serve.

- Volunteer at a soup kitchen
- Donate to a food or clothes drives
- Drive an elderly person to get their groceries
- Make food baskets and pass out to the homeless
- Cook dinner for those who volunteer

“The best inheritance a parent can give to his children is a few minutes of their time each day”.-M. Grundler

THE POWER OF PRAYING FOR YOUR CHILDREN

BY DENNIS AND BARBARA RAINEY

The sobering news about raising children is that we really have no ultimate control over whether our child will choose the narrow gate that leads to life (Matthew 7:14) or the wide gate that leads to destruction. If other experiences in life have not humbled us and shown us how dependent we are on God, then parenting a pre-adolescent or teenager will.

Understanding our desperate need to depend on God is the good news. Once we give up the naive idea that we parents can dictate the choices our children will make and the spiritual gate they will walk through—narrow or wide—then we are ready to slip on the knee pads and get serious about prayer.

What did we learn about prayer for our children as they prepared for and entered adolescence? To find out more on this article click on the link or visit

FAMILYLIFE
Help for today. Hope for tomorrow.
[A Cru Ministry]

<http://www.familylife.com/articles/topics/parenting/essentials/praying-for-your-children/the-power-of-praying-for-your-children#.WfD7qd6uSHc.gmail>



We have entered into a grateful season, so when asking the question “What are you grateful for?” We asked ANWA members and here’s what they said....

Being retired. Being in my right mind. My new job and the promotion on the way for my hubby. Establishment. Breakthrough. Finding my tribe, community, and covenant relationships. Laughter. A kind and thoughtful husband. A God who knows my every need and sends a word that always resonates in my soul. Life and my family. Authentic Godly relationships. God's faithfulness. That Jesus loves me so much he allowed me a process of healing for me to be made whole. For Access to God. I have a future.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

WEDDINGS

Evan & Corrine Watson 10/8/2017
 Lawson & Deborah Goodwill 8/9/17
 Jason and Laura Barclay 8/25/17
 Ed & Theresa Speights- 9/3/17

ANNIVERSARIES

Shawn & Radiant Montgomery 9/4/04
 Samson & Tiffany Reeves 10/12/02
 Richard & Sabrina Gallion 10/822/08

BIRTHS

Zalynn Machi Hunter born to Paul and Andrea Hunter on 9/12/2017
Joseph Malachi Bell born to Jarvell and Quilla Bell on 9/19/2017

Send us your great news!
If you have any of the above announcement contact the AS1 Marriage & Family ministry.

WHAT'S COOKING FOR THANKSGIVING

My Aunts Famous Dressing

So I was able to talk my aunt into sharing one of our family recipes. My family is known for their soul food and my aunt can throw down on some dressing. Now she doesn't really measure but she figured the measurements just for our audience.

Ingredients

- 4 chopped bell peppers
- 4 chopped onions
- 6 chopped celery stalks
- 1 pan of cornbread (crumbled)
- 1 loaf of toasted white bread
- 1 can of condensed cream of chicken soup
- Turkey broth (boiled from turkey parts)
- 4 eggs
- Salt, pepper, sage, poultry seasoning to taste

Instructions

- Preheat oven to 425 degrees
- Combine all ingredients bake in an uncovered pan for 30 to 40 mins

Thanks to my Aunt Wanda McCoy for sharing!

Join us for Worship
 All Nations Worship Assembly
 7359 S. Chappel
 Chicago, IL 60649
 Sunday Services: 8:00am, 10:30am, 1pm
 Midweek Prayer: Tuesdays 6pm
<http://allnationswa.com/>

Follow the AS 1 Marriage and Family Ministry

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 contact: info@allnationswa.com

