



# KEYS TO HAPPY LIVING



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Volume 4

## THE SECRETS OF A HITCH FREE MARRIAGE

**1 Communication:** One of the secrets that make a hitch free relationship is communication. Communication is the act of passing across news, information, feeling or knowledge to somebody or the process of expressing ideas, or feelings. Communication is the strength that marriage rides and drives on. Communication is the backbone of every relationship and marriage. It is to marriage, what water is to fish. When communication is bridged, confusion sets in.

(Gen 11:4-7) "Let us build a city and a tower, whose top may reach unto heaven; let us make a name for our self, lest we be scattered abroad. And the Lord came down to see the city and tower, which the children of men built. And the Lord said, behold the people is one, and they have all one language; and this they begin to do: now nothing will be Restrained from them, which they have imagined to do.

God said let us go down to confound their language, that they may not understand one another's speech. So the lord scattered them abroad.

The tower of Babel was possible because of effective communication that led to understanding and then the building. So also every home that must stand, must be built on communication.

God Himself could only scatter them by making sure they could not communicate. The moment they could not longer understand each other, they left off building the tower.

Marriage without effective communication makes divorce inevitable.

The day you allow your relationship to lack communication, is the day separation starts to set in.

Communication in relationship or marriage is not just about passing information

to him or her, but how you pass the information is very important.

The same thing might have different meanings. For your spouse to buy into your ideas, you need to approach him or her as a close friend.

Communication is a major component that brings about closeness. The better you communicate, the closer you become.

Effective communication brings understanding, graduates to trust, to friendship, to intimacy, then openness.

**2. FORGIVENESS:** What is forgiveness: Forgiveness is to pardon a wrong. Forgiveness is one of the keys that give us access to answered prayers. Forgiveness is the act of overlooking a wrong and letting go of a hurt somebody has done to you.



If you want forgiveness, you give forgiveness. Forgiveness is a character trait of God. He is all forgiving (Dan 9:9). The act of unforgiveness for somebody will hold your destiny in a spot. It will keep you from accessing God and keep you from the flow in His presence.

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## Awaken <sup>the</sup> Giant IN YOU

**R**omans 8:19 "For the earnest expectation of the creature waited for the manifestation of the sons of God"

"And the Lord God took the man, and put him into the Garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it". Everybody has a particular place was he/she was designed to dress and keep.

A lot of people are groaning today, because YOU have left vacant the place you were designed to function.

Every man was created to function in a defined area by God. When God was creating man, He placed in him, his work.

Your work is your assignment on earth. There is a difference between your work and your job. Your work is what you were designed to do, and your job is what you are paid to do.

Until you find that thing that no man can sack you from, you are yet to discover your assignment.

Cancer and HIV have a cure, but the knowledge is trapped within men.

If we all discover that which is inside and bring it to full manifestation, nobody will suffer.

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# THE SECRETS OF A HITCH FREE MARRIAGE

Marriage is the coming together of two givers and two forgivers. Forgiveness brings about healthy relationships. A lot of people has closed up on the relationship because of unforgiveness. Unforgiveness is the cause of problem in most relationship and marriages today.

Your spouse will offend you more than any other person on planet earth. You have to learn to forgive instantly. The devil loves it when you hold grudge because that is one of his clever tools of entering your marriage, relationship, and your life.

No reason is good enough to hold grudges. Unforgiveness brings about bitterness and bitterness dries you up and defiles you. Unforgiveness brings torment. It leads to affliction, stagnation and brings financial hardship in a home

God expects you to forgive 490 times a day on one offense. Until you are ready to do that, you do not qualify for God's Blessings.

3. **Love:** is a matter of the heart that finds expression through the mouth and actions.

Love is to a home as water is to a fish. Love in marriage is not a suggestion but an instruction (Eph 5:25)

You may think a woman was not instructed to love in this chapter, Women naturally love people that care for them. If you love a woman with your all, you naturally win her love. That is why when some men want to deceive a woman, they show her care. No marriage can succeed without love. This is why God instructed a man who is the head of the house to love because love is the engine that drives marriage.

I am talking about God's kind of love, that kind that Christ has for the church "Unconditional love that nothing can separate. The book of Romans says who shall separate us from the love of God? ' shall things present, height, depth, nothing shall separate us from the love of God.

So, it is not the character of your wife that should make you to stop loving her.

Until you love your wife as Christ loves the church, you are not in agreement with the word of God.

Christ loves the church not only when she obeys but even when she disobeys. (Rom 5:8) "But God command his love towards us in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us". Love your spouse in spite of their short comings. Until you love that way, you may never taste fulfillment in your home.

A woman you do not love, you cannot honor. (1pet 3:7) Says "If you do not honor your wife, I will not answer your prayer" In other word, lack of honor in a home can hinder God's blessings.

4. **Openness:** is transparency in a marriage relationship. Openness is what gives place for love. Openness is the foundation for trust and trust is the pillar that love rest on. Without openness in marriage, love has no fertile land to grow.

Most Africans believe openness is a sign of weakness, "how can my spouse know everything about me" the bible said "and the two shall become one flesh" as long as there is nothing your head does, that your heart is unaware off, there should not be any secret kept away from your spouse. Openness is the key to transparency, trust and love in marriage.

5. **Giving:** when you solve the problem of giving in any home, 99% of what would have caused problems in such homes would be resolved. Most marriages are suffering today because of lack of giving. When you give to your spouse, you show honor to them and it brings intimacy in your home. Giving spices up the treasure in homes. Giving is a proof of love in marriage and relationship.

God so loved the world that he gave! You cannot say you love your wife or husband and you are not giving. Love and Giving goes together.

You cannot love without giving, you can even give without loving. Giving in marriage is as important as breath is to humans. Any marriage where love is not expressed in giving dries up in no time and there is bound to be friction in such homes. Giving is the ability to be selfless in marriage. Giving is not restricted to material things alone.

## WAYS IN WHICH YOU CAN GIVE

1. You give when you spend time with your spouse.
2. You give when you give your attention to the details in your spouse's life.
3. You give when you show care.
4. You give when you share intimate time together.
5. You give when you listen.
6. You give when you encourage each other's dreams.
7. You give when you honor each other with gifts.
8. You give when you appreciate your spouse.
9. You give when you touch your spouse
10. You give when you kiss your spouse on the lips, cheeks, neck.

6. **Prayer:** when every other thing fails, prayer is that which cannot fail. The bible said "except God build a house they labor in vain that build it", it also said, "every house is built by someone but He that built all houses is God". For you to have a peaceful and a hitch free home, you need to constantly bring your marriage before God in prayers. You do not have to wait for issues in your home before you start praying, you pray to prevent issues.

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## Awaken <sup>the</sup> Giant IN YOU

In you is another man's solution and in him is your solution, the world will become a better place. Rom 12:4-6.

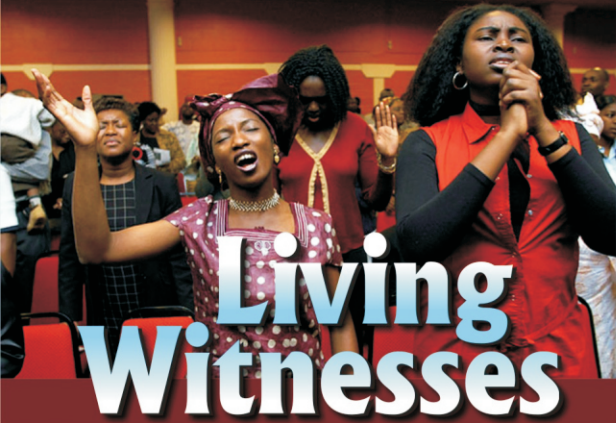
Some people are to have manufacturing or clothing factories, another person may be threading the needle in that factory. As far as God is concerned, if that is your place, you will receive the same reward. After your days on earth, you will give account of the work you did here, and also give account of your talent. (Matt 25:14-30)

(1Cor 3:9) said, "We are laborers together with God". If you go and labor in the wrong place, it is as good as you never came, because there are still lapses in your place of assignment.

You may have being sleeping with a cure for cancer and HIV and people are dying of it, someone somewhere is fatherless because of the solution within you. You watch Television all day with people's solution; you party all the time with solutions within you.

It is not just about you, it is about the People that will suffer because of what you refused to do. The country you are, notwithstanding. Nigeria may be full of challenges, challenges is an opportunity for relevance. Anywhere you see a problem, it is a clear opportunity to make yourself relevant. Become a faithful steward for the talent given to you by God.

There is a giant within you, do not glory in men, that person that seems so special is not more special than you. All you need to do is to discover the potentials within you. You can carry much more than what that person carries. (1Cor. 3:21-22).



# MAN'S / WOMAN'S Functions & Needs



## Living Witnesses

I have been a member of my church and serving in various group, without having a personal relationship with God. I came across a copy of Keys To Happy Living, so I decided to attend the S & M fellowship. I found the programme very impactful so I started attending regularly. After one of the Sunday's meeting, I was greatly touch by the message, so when the Pastor announce that we should publicly declare Christ, I finally gave my life to Christ and Since then all things says yes to me because I said yes to Jesus. I gave God all the glory.

Bro . Ability

I want to appreciate God for the privilege of being a part of this ministry. I joined this ministry some months ago and also joined one of the service group. I own a furniture company, ever since inception, there have not been any single contract. Pastor Judith always pray for favor and encourages us to do so, Recently God connect me to a very big contract running into millions. I give God all the glory.

Sis V.

My marriage was at the verge of breaking up, and everybody around me including my Pastor had advised me to leave my marriage. I came across a copy of Keys To Happy Living after reading it, I was so impacted that I decided to see pastor Judith. While counseling me, She made an illustration with my physical body, "she asked if one of your hand is feeble, would you think of cutting it off? rather you will look for a means of healings. She said, your husband is a part of you do all you can to save your marriage" after the counseling she prayed with me, she also spoke to my husband and ever since, my home is peaceful, I give God all the glory.

Sis Chika

### MAN'S ROLES

1. A man is the leader of his home, and for him to successfully lead, he must have a purpose and a vision.
2. A man is a cultivator and lover. He may not start off with the exact woman he wants. his job is to cultivate his wife so she can be the best. He needs to nurture all her potentials. How he envisions his woman is what he cultivate. (Eph 5:25-28) so man, make your wife what you want, because "a woman is the glory of a man" (1 Corin 11:7)
3. A man is a worker and giver
4. A man is a provider. A real man takes care of others before himself.

### WOMAN'S ROLES

1. A woman is a helper. She was designed with many qualities and ability that equip her to help.
2. She is a co-leader. She shares her man's vision and works with him to accomplish it. She takes what the man has and enlarges it.
3. A woman is an enhancer. She takes what the man has and put light and color into it to extend it.
4. A woman is a reflector/receiver. Your wife reflects who you are. When you show a woman love, you will win her submission and love in return.
5. A woman is a manager. A woman is to manage whatever He gives and give it a life.
6. A woman is an incubator. She gives life to what is provided by a man. She reproduces after her kind. If you sow bitterness, you will reap bitterness.

### A MAN'S NEEDS

1. **Respect:** Man loves respect. It is a part of his design as a leader, protector and provider. This is the booster for his self

esteem. If you want the keys to a man's heart, give him respect, submission and obedience. Remind him of his capability; and that will boost his self esteem.

2. **Companionship:** That was what gave birth to a woman ( Gen 2:18) Your husband goes through challenging activities during the day. He needs someone to share his experience with.

3. **Always ready sexually:** A man's need for sex is one of the strongest needs imaginable. It is part of their makeup that gives them great fulfillment. A wife needs to recognize this need and consciously satisfy it.

### A WOMAN'S NEEDS

1. **Love:** (Colo 3:19, Eph 5:33). A woman was created to function in love. If you do not give a woman love, you are causing her to malfunction. If you want to see the best of any woman, show her you care and you will win her heart. Why do you think that, even when a man is obviously deceiving a woman, she will not know because she is seeing what she was made to function on. When you show a woman she is important, she falls for you.

2. **Conversation:** A woman wants you to talk to her and not to shout at her. Because of the leadership mindset, a man may give instruction and leave no chance for dialogue. The words you speak to a woman affect her emotionally. If you get a woman's ear, you have her heart.

3. **Affection:** The primary need of a woman is affection while that of a man is sex. If the two needs are not understood and met, it can cause problems in marriage. A woman needs an atmosphere of affection in order to feel loved and fulfilled.

# 10 Keys to avoid Marrying the WRONG PERSON

Marriage is the second most important decision on earth. The person you marry will determine how happy, successful and how long you live on earth. It could even determine your eternal destination.

1. **Courtship:** Courtship is the period of knowing each other before marriage. Courtship is semi-marriage not marriage. It is a decision making time. A man or woman you do not court, you will not know. It is a time of building friendship and compatibility. When choosing a life partner, compatibility is very important. The bible said "two cannot work together except they agree (Eccl 10:10) says "if the iron be blunt, then shall you put

more strength "if you marry a partner that is not compatible with you, you need much more energy to make it work. If you have a home of error, you will have descendants of error.

The problem with most African homes can be attributed to way our fathers treats our mothers more or less like slaves. That tradition has been passed down and most men still do not care about their wives feelings.

And it is during courtship you will know, the perception your spouse have about marriage. (Matt 1:18b-19, AMP) "When His mother Mary has been promised in marriage to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with a child and her promised husband decided to dismiss her secretly."

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# 10 Keys to avoid *Marrying* the WRONG PERSON

Joseph was a promised husband to Mary as at the time she was found pregnant with Jesus. They were not yet married at that time, if they were married, he would not think of putting her away secretly. Courtship is important in order for you to know the person you are to spend the rest of your life with. While going into courtship, do it with a positive attitude and do everything to make it work.

**2. Do not be desperate/ Anxious:** A desperate person will always sell his/her self cheap. (James 1:4-17, Phil 4:6)

When you are anxious or desperate, more often than not, you get the wrong thing. Have you noticed that each time you show too much interest in a particular item in this part of the world, the seller in most cases takes advantage of you. That is how it is in relationship, when you are desperate, the other person takes advantage of you:

Watch, every desperate person has something to hide. So they want to achieve something before the real truth comes out.

**3. Don't engage in sex before marriage:** (Heb 13:4) "Marriage is only honorable when bed is undefiled". Sex is a veil that can blindfold your sight. When you are involved sexually with a man or woman, you will not really know him. You will only know him/her in flesh. 90% of almost all marital problems are caused by sex before marriage. Sex before marriage is almost normal now in our society. (1Corin. 3:16-17)

Sex before marriage is the pollution satan has brought to join wrong persons together, so as to mess up their lives. Some people are not married today because of sexual immorality and they are still willing to continue in sin, not realizing the cause of their bondage. The word says, "He that honors me, will I honor, marriage is honorable to all. So He will only honor you with marriage if you honor His temple.

It is only a mad man that does the same thing, and expects a different result. Sex before marriage only destroys, it does not build.

**4. Be sure he/she know God:** Any person that does not have respect for God will not have respect for you. If he/she cannot respect His maker, you will not also be respected

**5. Marry your friend:** Marry because of love not money, beauty or position etc. Somebody with who you cannot talk over issues, laugh over issues, tease each other is not a right spouse for you. Marry somebody you can tell your hurt, pains, and feelings and discuss with. I always say communication is the backbone in every marriage and relationship. Friendship will give you room to do that. This is another reason I encourage courtship. Someone you did not court, how will you know each other enough to establish friendship?

*To be continued in the next edition*

**Pastor Judith Daniel-Imagoro** is a public speaker, founder and the president of Glorious Living Singles and married ministry. She host a weekly singles & married (Non denominational) programme, where she teaches the principles of making marriage and relationship work. She and her husband Daniel Imagoro have a son.

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**Or you can reach us with the following contacts:** 01-8513116, 08188205042. E-mail: keys2happyliving@yahoo.com

**Join our Non-denominational Singles and Married Fellowship every Sunday Evening 4.00pm - 6.00pm @ 58 Ogudu Road, Unity Close, Opp. Police Station, Ojota, Lagos.**

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{Gen 1:3} "And the Lord said, let there be light and there was light" {Gen 2:19b} "whatsoever Adam called every living creature, that was the name thereof". Your future is laid up in your heart and brought forth by your mouth. Your marriage is what you call it. Your situation is at the mercy of your mouth. There are homes today that are broken because of words that were not properly used. Your words control your life. You may say it is one's action that determines a relationship; but it is words that express actions. You use words to express your displeasure, satisfaction and love.

Marriage is an agreement between two people, which is usually expressed through words. Your life is as a result of what you make of it. What you call your home and your spouse determines what become of them. Marriage came to be, as a result of spoken words and will also depend on words to stay or break up. {Proverb 16:24} "pleasant words are as a honeycomb, sweet to the soul, and health to the bones". Sweet words are health to marriage. It strengthens your marriage and brings out the best in both partners. When your soul experiences sweetness, joy naturally flows and extends to your partner. Learn to speak pleasant words to your partner, it enhances love and brings happiness into your home. Ask God for wisdom to make your heart wise and teach your mouth to speak sweet words, and your home will be full of happiness. (Proverb 16: 23).

I watched a movie called FIRE PROOF. The couple was having serious problems and the man, as a result of his father's advice, decided not to say anything wrong to his wife no matter her actions; he also sent her some gifts which she never appreciated as a result of the damage in their relationship. Whenever he was tempted to say something wrong, he would spin and walk away. As long as he did not express it through words, she could not hold it against him. At the end of the movie, the wife came to him and told him that something had happened to him, that she wanted the same thing to happen to her. What happened was that he met Jesus that gave him wisdom to control his tongue.

Most women have screamed their husbands out of their lives. I was counseling a young lady and she said to me, " I'm not married today because of my attitude. I get angry with men and say something stupid. Even when I tell them later that I'm sorry, they will get out of my life". You can say you are sorry after saying something wrong but you cannot erase what has been said out of people's mind.

Some people have been told negative things all their life, they just need an encouraging word from their spouse. Sometimes the way you can best help God is by finding a way to uplift your spouse. The devil has no power over your life until you invite him in by your words. Be careful what you say, it can break or make your life.

## 5 Ways TO BUILD YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH WORDS

1. Learn to compliment your spouse.
2. Learn to appreciate your spouse: no matter how little his/her sacrifices, a spouse you do not appreciate, you will soon lose
3. Learn to praise your spouse
4. Learn to speak into their future
5. Learn to encourage your spouse: never neglect your spouse. He/she is your first mission field.