

**If We “Work It,”
Will It Work?**

As the story goes...a wife entered the preacher’s office full of hatred toward her husband. “I don’t want to just get rid of him; I want to get even! Before I divorce him, I want to hurt him as much as he has hurt me.”

The preacher thought for a while, then suggested this plan. “God home and act as if you really love your husband. Tell him how much he means to you. Praise him for every decent trait. God out of your way to be as kind and considerate as possible. Acknowledge his presence every time he enters the room. Spare no efforts to please him. After you’ve convinced him of your undying love. Tell him you cannot live without him, then drop the bomb. Tell him you are getting a divorce. That will really hurt him.”

With revenge in her eyes, she smiled, “Beautiful. Boy will he ever be surprised!” She stalked out of the office. As the story goes...she did it with enthusiasm. Acting “as if.” For three months she showed love and kindness, listening and giving and sharing. When she didn’t return, the preacher called, “Are you ready to go through with the divorce?” “Divorce? She exclaimed. “Never! I discovered I really do love my husband.” Her actions had changed her feelings. “As if” had blossomed into reality. Determined motion resulted in emotion. The ability to love is established not so much by fervent promises of completion as often as lovingly repeated deeds.

With a constant threat of destruction to the home, what can safeguard us against the “fiery darts” Satan hurls at our home?

Well, we can recognize the purpose God has for the home. “Unless the LORD builds the house, ‘they’ labor in vain who build it; unless the LORD guards the city, the watchman stays awake in vain” (Psalm 127:1). Homes are often hurt because God’s rules are ignored. Get the family together. Do things together. We can take the time to be with one another. “See then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise, redeeming the time, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be unwise, but understand what the will of the Lord is” (Ephesians 5:15-17).

Communicate. Talk things out. Yes, it may be uncomfortable at times. We should seek to answer the questions in our family. Discuss life, goals, hopes, dreams, and spiritual concerns. Let God have His way with your family. Families focused on a spiritual purpose and a true sense of value are “happier.” In God they trust! Regular worship, singing and praying together, and bible study will bind a family together. Scripture says, “Let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching” (Hebrews 10:24-25).

Much of what we read in the Bible can apply to building and maintaining a healthy home.

**A house is made of
bricks and beams.**

*A home is
made of
hopes and
dreams.*

Bday/Anniv Lunch: ...yes, as soon as **we** can! Pray for it.

— *THANK YOU* for reading!