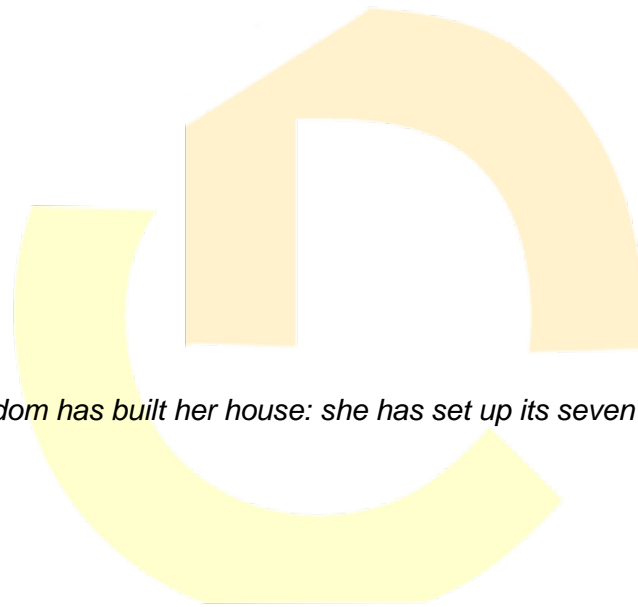


# 7 Pillars for a Happy Marriage



**Biblical Reference**

*"Wisdom has built her house: she has set up its seven pillars"* (Proverbs 9:1).

**DESTINY TRAINING**

**MODULE 4  
LESSON 4**

## Objectives

1. To build seven pillars to live a solid and happy marriage.
2. To foster love as the main pillar of marriage where we are intended to be separated only by death.
3. To understand the blessing that serving carries with it, and the privilege of serving in the home.

## INTRODUCTION

### TOWERS OF SILVER

*“If she is a wall, we will build towers of silver on her”  
(Song of Songs 8:9).*

*Oh blessed love upon which we have built our home.  
The thing that attracted me the most to you my beloved, was the  
rock-like firmness that you have possessed from the moment we met.*

*Your firmness is the result of a strong relationship with God.  
There are no cracks in it and neither winds nor storms have  
succeeded in moving you because you are rooted and grounded in  
the word of God.*

*Firmness that came to my life as a gift from God, to support my life.*

*Firmness that displays the DNA of the virtuous women.*

*Marrying you was the start of building the home that would shelter our  
future generations.*

*Firmness upon which we decided to build our towers that became  
towers of silver, purified by the word of God.*

*Thanks to this foundation, we have invited many friends to help us build  
and whilst we both know who they are, it is worth mentioning them:*

*Mr. Respect and Mrs. Honour  
Mr. Romantic and Mrs. Enchanting  
Mr. Kindness and Mrs. Prudence  
Mr. Generosity and Mrs. Temperance  
Mr. Joy and Mrs. Happiness and  
Mr. Diligence and Mrs. Perseverance.*

*Our daughters are like olive trees planted around our table, our sons-  
in-law are like conquering princes, our son like a brave warrior, our  
disciples like leafy trees that will never cease to bear fruit.*

*Our decorations are perfect, made of silver-covered wood, our curtains, bedspreads and carpets, each a crimson colour, and our bed is made of flowers.*

*We both decided that the most important people in our lives should be part of our family: our father who is the most loving being in the universe and guided us in building up this tower; our best friend, who redeemed the tower's debt by paying the highest price and did it for love.*

*And how can we forget; the sweet and tender comforter, who always encourages us, strengthens us, guides us and gives us hope. Thanks to you we have been able to build a castle that will last for generations.*

*Your husband who loves you:*

Cesar C.

A wise man listens to the word of God and follows it. This makes him the ideal person to build his house on firm land, foreseeing that it will stay strong through adversity.

When a person decides to join their life to another in marriage, it is generally because they are in love. I am fully convinced that marriage is a miracle. How can we explain two people who had perhaps never met, all of a sudden being profoundly in love in a short space of time? Love is the only explanation.

It is very true that we all long to build a firm house that will not be blown down by the winds of life. To achieve this however, we need to work on the seven pillars mentioned by the writer in Proverbs **(Proverbs 9:1)**.

The pillars are as follows:

## 1. LOVE

# DESTINY TRAINING

The moment I met Claudia I felt so impacted by her that I did not know if I was being tempted or if it was a divine appointment. When I went before the Lord to ask him what was happening, he replied: *"she will be your wife"*. More than thirty-six years have passed and the love between us has never diminished. Why not? This is because we both take care to feed it with our words, attitude, gestures and small details.

Did you know that love is like a plant? We have to water it every day and it needs sunlight. We should speak to it so it grows strongly and solidly. In our marriage we have set out to put these things into practice. I tell my wife I love her every day and it should not just be said like a throw away comment, it should be said honestly and sincerely. Words are like music to our ears, they should bring joy to our souls, cheer us up and strengthen our spirit.

## 2. FRIENDSHIP

Friendship is like gold: it is one of the most precious gifts a person can receive. One of the reasons why God created marriage was because man had nobody to share with at his level. God gave him a partner: *“The Lord God said: It is not good for man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him” (Genesis 2:18)*. Both man and women should value the blessing of marriage founded upon friendship and not let it be overtaken by sexual passion. I believe that when our priorities are in order, that is: God, ourselves, our family, the church and finally work, our marriage will be protected. If we allow God to take first place in our hearts, He will keep us from mistreating those we love the most. An honest friendship is the result of a good relationship with God and having a sensitive heart to obey His word. This will help us value our spouse more each day and see the best in them. Both will work hard to make the friendship last.

I thank God for the beautiful wife he gave me, for the way she became my best friend. Allow me to share these words that describe our friendship with you:

*“A sincere and transparent friendship, that only God could have forged, in the thresholds of glory.*

*A friendship that has become a hymn of love, a poem of faithfulness and a precedent of respect.*

*A friendship that protects the most valuable secrets, because it knows how to safeguard the most valuable treasure in the depths of its heart.*

*The friendship of life given as an offering as though redemption depended on it.*

*A friendship that gives its all as if it were resting in the arms of the redeemer.*

*A friendship that is loaded with words of truth and expresses dynamism, enthusiasm and passion.*

*A friendship that takes eternal truths and makes them stepping stones that lead us to heavenly dwellings.*

*A friendship like the innocence of a child, like the strength of the young and the wisdom of the wise.*

*A friendship that is laughter and joy, blessed company that we hope will last an eternity.*

*A friendship that is like drinking from the most crystal clear and pure fountain.*

*A friendship that brings comfort to the soul, feeds the spirit and is founded upon faith.*

*A friendship that is always there when I need it, as the greatest support of my life.*

*Friendship that edifies, motivates and brings comfort. Friendship whose arms protect it from the abyss that disguises itself as an adulterous woman.*

*A friendship that takes me to a safe haven. A friendship that gives security to all those under its shadow.*

*A friendship that can only come from the heart of the One who saved us. Beloved one, thank you for agreeing to be my friend when you did not really know me, thank you for believing in me when few people did. Thank you, because next to salvation, being your friend and having your love, is the best thing that ever happened to me. My love, I will fight and work hard for our friendship to last an eternity.*

### 3. RESPECT

Marriage is a pact, that is, an agreement between two parties. From the moment a couple marries, they commit to remain faithful in love and mutual respect, regardless of the situations they have to go through.

When he writes his letter to the Ephesians, Paul advises the men and tells them: *“Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her”* (**Ephesians 5:25a**). In some marriages the danger is that the man might fall out of love and the woman might start to show disrespect.

I believe that the best medicine for a couple to continue to respect each other is to never lose their admiration for each other. Paul the Apostle said: *“And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love”* (**1Corinthians 13:13**).

### 4. TRANSPARENCY

*“Adam and his wife were both naked, and they felt no shame”* (**Genesis 2:25**).

Transparency and innocence were alive in the Garden of Eden as a result of purity of heart. It is very important that couples maintain purity in their relationship and do not allow anything to stain it.

When God created man and woman he gave them sexuality, not just as a means to reproduce, but he blessed them with it as a source of permanent enjoyment.

Solomon said: *“May your fountain be blessed, and may you rejoice in the wife of your youth. A loving doe, a graceful deer, may her breasts satisfy you always, may you ever be intoxicated with her love”* (**Proverbs 5:18-19**).

If you have received incorrect information about sexuality, you have to renounce this seed that has made your life

unhappy because it has contaminated this beautiful and blessed area of your life. You must drink from the genuine and powerful fountain that is the word of God that guides us towards a successful sexual life.

Remember that the first couple in the Garden of Eden had no clothes on; the Word tells us that they were both naked and felt no shame. It is fundamental that couples keep a naked heart towards each other, and that they don't hide anything. Many of the problems marriages experience today happen because the man does things that he does not want his wife to find out about or vice versa.

There should be no secrets in marriage. The bible warns us that we should not plot harm against a neighbour who lives trustfully near us.

Always live sincerely, and let your heart be transparent, like looking into the depths of clear blue waters. May your life be like this and may others see what lies in the bottom of your soul. Do not have a double heart.

## 5. COMMUNICATION

*“Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone” (Colossians 4:6).* Every time we speak, our words should be full of grace, wisdom and faith, as this will help us to see people and circumstances for what they are.

It is very important in marriage, to uphold good communication. However, we know that this comes as the result of the friendship a couple has managed to foster.

Remember that we are the sum of our thoughts and whatever we have accepted in our minds we express through our words. Jesus said: *“You brood of vipers, how can you who are evil say anything good? For the mouth speaks what the heart is full of” (Matthew 12:34b).* Solomon expressed that: *“The wise woman builds her house, but the foolish pulls it down with her hands” (Proverbs 14:1).* He added that: *“All hard work brings a profit, but mere talk leads only to poverty” (Proverbs 14:23).*

We need to understand that a man's words edify the women; the wife's word edify her husband, and the parents' words edify their children.

They will edify, motivate, strengthen and enrich.

Both speaking and listening are an art that when used well, will enrich the home and strengthen each of its members. Solomon said: *“The quiet words of the wise are more to be heeded than the shouts of a ruler of fools” (Ecclesiastes 9:17).*

### Principles for being a good listener:

1. Give your spouse **the value** they deserve. When we truly hold others in higher esteem than we do ourselves, it is easy to listen well.

2. **Pay attention** to your spouse when they speak, in the same way you would like them to pay attention to you when you speak.
3. Don't **show** disagreement when they are speaking.
4. Remember that a **good listener** knows how to give favourable opinions and encouragement. How good is a timely word!
5. A good listener also knows how to **ask questions** at the right moment.

## 6. COOPERATION

*“Two are better than one, because they have good return for their labour: if either of them falls down, one can help the other up. But pity anyone who falls and has no one to help them up. Also, if two lie down together, they will keep warm. But how can one keep warm alone? Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves. A cord of three strands is not quickly broken” (Ecclesiastes 4:9-12).*

Every couple should consider marriage to be full companionship. There are three areas in which women especially need to feel that they really have a partner:

### 1. Domestically

It is very important that a man puts himself in his wife's shoes to understand the small details that will make her happy. Every man should understand that responsibility in the home should be shared.

### 2. Financially

Thankfully, this is easy to understand within the culture of our time. Nowadays, often both man and woman must bring in financial provision. Years ago, we were under the impression that this was solely the man's responsibility but society itself has led to both man and woman to be productive. The important thing here is that once they prosper they should not allow greed or selfishness to come into their hearts.

### 3. In the Ministry

When a woman is fired up in the ministry, a love for souls arises; a desire to spend time with her disciples, in cells and at the Destiny training school. It is usually the man who perceives first his calling to ministry, nevertheless it should be a motivation for the woman to get involved as well and feel fulfilled in this area too.

I have seen my wife develop in different areas: as a mother, professionally and as a political leader; but I could see the greatest satisfaction in her life come when she felt fulfilled in the ministry. It was as though she was reborn; she was constantly happy. I could see that she had found her place in the divine purpose established for her life.

## 7. BEING GUIDED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT

As a family we decided that the Holy Spirit would be the most important part of our lives and that everything we did would be to His glory. Today we can testify that having given him first

place in our lives this was the greatest blessing we could have ever experienced individually and as a family.

We should learn to understand that just as our spirit understands the things that lie in the depths of man's heart, the Holy Spirit knows the most intimate things about God. We have not received the spirit of this world but of God. He is the only one who can help us in our weaknesses, *"In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans"* **(Romans 8:26)**.

When we get to know the Holy Spirit, He starts to work in a supernatural way, helping us to live the Christian life and grow in our relationship with Him until we reach fullness in the stature of Christ. We have a great goal and a big challenge ahead established by the Lord Jesus: to become like Him, our master, whilst we are on earth. But we can only achieve this if we allow the Holy Spirit to live inside us. It is therefore fundamental to walk in the Spirit.

It is important that we understand that faith is not human, in other words, it does not come from this world but from God. The language of faith is spiritual and has spiritual eyes. What we see in the spiritual world we bring to the natural world. By having faith, we can transform every circumstance in a positive way and call into being, things that were not.

Reaching a place of intimacy with the Holy Spirit is something that can only happen when we let go of ourselves, when we can set aside our own interests and submit to Godly desires. When our dreams join His and our aims are the same as God's aims, we can finally say we have come to depend on Him completely.

From this point on, everything we do will be to his glory. The Holy Spirit is the only one who knows the most intimate details about God; He is the only bridge between all things human and all things divine; He is the only one who can help us spread God's glory across the earth.

It is absolutely necessary that both the husband and the wife work hard to safeguard each of these seven pillars.

## CONCLUSION

# DESTINY TRAINING

It is indispensable to have God's support in the development of our marriage to achieve a healthy balance; this means that both spouses need to foster and enrich their personal relationship with the Lord each day. Why? So that our married lives unfold harmoniously, even at times when the family is faced with difficult situations.

Tips that will help your relationship:

1. Cultivate intimacy as much as possible.
2. Give yourselves to one another in genuine friendship.
3. Set aside enough time each day to spend with your spouse.
4. Treat your spouse like a King/queen.
5. Foster your relationship with the Holy Spirit.